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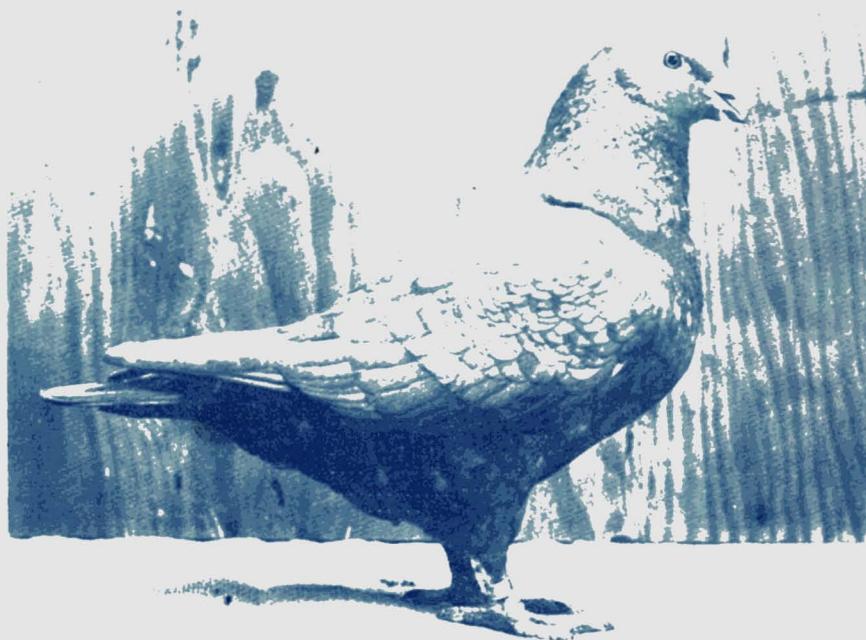
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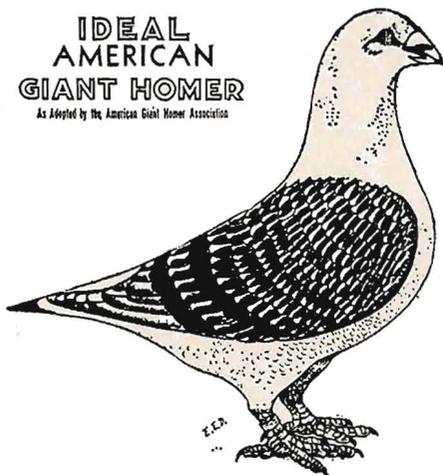


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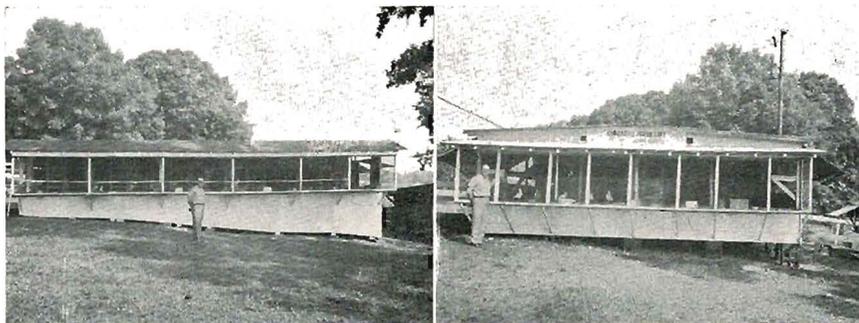
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NEWS FROM HAWAII



BY HENRY K. C. CHANG



The racing season in the islands is in full swing with the Racing Homer clubs. Each race is anyone's guess, we depend on the weather on the day of the race. Much doings among the newcomers in the sport, some strike it the first few times and others are waiting for their turn to clock that winner into "winner's circle". Time will tell and if kept up one is bound to win one of the races, with ten races in each series a year. Strains means nothing when it comes to Hawaii's overwater racing. It is the individual bird itself.

I spoke with Randall Pace who is building a new home out Kaneohe way. He had about 80 Kings before his lofts were mated up early in the year. Randall had Champion King with a blue little over a year ago. Eddie Rowold had a number of White Kings mated the last time I saw his lofts. Luther Yam has a few pairs of Kings mated. With the April showers over and the merry month of May, many young are on the floor and many will be in the pot also. The good ones will make the young bird show

in September. Fancy pigeons are Pouters, Fantails, Modenas, a few Helms. Glad to see Cordell Chang back home from the Mainland. He and Allan Komatsu, along with Daryll Uyehara, make things hard for the Modena boys for they have nice ones.

The Maui breeders have gone out of pigeons since there's no great leader to sponsor shows and Hilo where the Orchid Island fanciers still have some good birds awaiting their leader back from military service. It is the shows in Honolulu that kept the sport going. If there's no shows our pigeons are eating birds or will be. Like all sports we have the fat and lean years and in the islands seldom a sport lasts as long as the Hawaii Pigeon Association's shows. Other livestock shows had wildfire interest and a few years later all gone to bits. Roller canaries, orchid, fish, and other small stock shows we have, the dog and pigeon shows still going after 40 years. I haven't seen a Red Carneau in our shows for years. Pity for such a beautiful breed. May the Fancy keep up the deep interest with our pigeon shows. Aloha!

St. Louis Pigeon Convention To Be An Historic Event For American Fanciers

By SAM PEAVEY, President

National Pigeon Association, Louisville, Ky.

For the first time in history, a meeting of all the pigeon organizations in American is being planned. This historic affair will be held in St. Louis on July 23-26, at the Chase-Park Plaza Hotel. For years, pigeon fanciers have recognized the need for better communication and closer relationships among the various organizations serving the Pigeon Fancy.

A cordial invitation to attend is wide open to individual fanciers and clubs throughout the U.S. and Canada. Many are already making plans to combine a trip to this convention with a pleasant summer vacation in this beautiful part of the country. Every pigeon organization is strongly urged to make certain that it will be well represented at this convention which can mean so much to the future of the Pigeon Fancy. We all share so many common interests and problems that we should be facing together. This applies to all breeders of all the breeds — racing, fancy, utility, and sporting. Most of us need to broaden our concern and appreciation for more of the beautiful varieties of pigeons which man has succeeded in developing in his partnership with the Creator.

Let us hope that this first American Pigeon Fanciers Convention will be the beginning of a wonderful new re-

lationship among fanciers throughout the 50 states and Canada. The American Pigeon Fanciers Council which has shared in the planning of this event could well become a permanent council through which all pigeon organizations can work toward more unity of purposes and programs. It could provide a means by which fanciers of all sorts can come to know and understand each other more fully. It could co-ordinate some standing committees to serve and support the total Pigeon Fancy. Many of us are hoping too that the St. Louis Convention will set the stage for an All-American Pigeon Show and Convention for all organizations the following year.

Colored Bands In The Show

By I. W. METCALF, Los Angeles, Calif.

I was interested in the article appearing in the March issue of the American Pigeon Journal under the heading "Don't Allow Colored Bands in the Show," which was credited to a gentleman in Los Angeles, in which he refers to the use of colored bands as issued by the National Pigeon Association, suggests they be barred from the Shows. First let me say I do not agree with him for various reasons, chief among them being the fact that he is inferring a lack of integrity (if not downright dishonesty) on the part of the appointed Judge. Most large pigeon shows of the country welcome birds wearing seamless bands from all the nationally recognized

banding organizations. A few colored seamless bands in a class do not identify the owners of the birds and are of little consequence, particularly to the man who doesn't enter any birds.

From the tone of his article I get the impression that the gentleman is genuinely concerned. I don't know where he has shown his birds as I have looked through several past years lists of exhibitors in the Los Angeles Pigeon Club's Pageant of Pigeons as well as a couple of Nationals held in this area and I fail to find his name included anywhere. Neither do I find him listed as a member of the Los Angeles Pigeon Club. However, his statements indicate that he is familiar with all club show rules so I assume he is a man of considerable experience in the Pigeon Fancy. While I do use colored N.P.A. Bands and like them, I wouldn't attach too much importance to it if they were no longer available. My main objective here is to get the gentleman involved in the local Fancy by his joining the Los Angeles Pigeon Club and showing some of his birds in the Pageant of Pigeons. In union there is strength and by his participation with our co-operation, he might be able to contribute something of consequence.

The Eastern Jacobin Association

By JOHN F. FREIBURG, Pub. Dir., Freehold, N.J.

The combined meet that was held January 9th-11th at Worthington, Ohio has proven to be the greatest single Jacobin Classic ever held. A total of 446 Jacobins were shown by 43 exhibitors comprised of members of the Eastern, Central, Pacific and International Jacobin Clubs.

The meet provided the greatest display and the toughest competition possible in the breeding and showing of Jacobins. After reviewing the show results, the Eastern Jacobin Association can be very proud of their entry. Complete list of awards may be secured by writing Ken Walling, Sec., 517-A Sunnyside Ave., Lincroft, N.J., 07738.

Our Annual Meeting was also held at Worthington, Ohio, on January 10th, 1970. Officers serving the club this year, will again be President, Reed Kinzer; Vice-President, Stan Plona; Sec.-Treas., Ken Walling; Publicity, John F. Freiburg.

Future show dates covering our Young Bird and Winter Shows, to be announced later.

American Show Flight Bronx Association, Inc.

By MARTIN W. CAMELI, Sec., Bronx, N.Y.

The American Show Flight Bronx Association Inc. wishes to announce its show dates for 1970.

Our young bird Show, which is a lawn show is a closed all-variety show for members only. This will be held on Sunday, July 26, 1970. The old and young all-variety open show will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 24 and 25, 1970. Both shows will be at the Moose Hall, 640 East 216th Street, Bronx, N.Y. On behalf of our officers and members we wish everyone a fine season in the Pigeon Fancy.

Advertise now for spring sales.

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The only truly effective drug for chronic respiratory disease. It has cured "chronic cough" in birds that had been sick for six months. Must be given for five days. Enough for 5 gallons \$5; for 10 gallons \$8.50; or enough for 50 gallons \$32. "Tylan 200" injectable \$2 vial.

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100 tablets for \$2.25

Cod Liver Oil Capsules

100 at \$1.50 500 at \$5.00
Good for youngsters just in pinfeathers also good all around tonic.

Aureomycin Tablets 25 mgm

100 at \$2.30
200 at \$4.25
300 at \$6.00

A must for any pigeon fancier. Ideal dose form for pigeon for any infectious disease.

Enheptin for Canker

1 Oz. \$1.00 postpaid
2 Oz. \$1.75 postpaid
8 Oz. \$3.50 postpaid

With directions for mixing with grit. Use as directed and you can forget canker forever.

Sulmet — Liquid sulfa drug

Effective treatment for paratyphoid and coccidiosis.

Small bottle \$1.00

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Vitapo With Vi-Start

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Terramycin Injectable

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A good stable antibiotic designed to be injected. Ideal for reducing losses especially in young birds.

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The greatest thing that ever happened to pigeons. One strip kills all insects in a 10 x 10 loft for three months. I am using these now and feather and body lice are gone. So simple. Mosquitoes and flies are dead too. Birds are not bothered. Just hang strip in loft. Nothing more to it.

Vionate L Pellets

Not a feed but a Vitamin Mineral pellet that can be either fed or given as individual vitamin tablets.

1 lb. \$3.75 2 lbs. \$7.25

Vitalizer

Contains Streptomycin and penicillin plus vitamins. Good treatment for respiratory diseases. 50 gallon treatment \$2.75.

Wilson Respirator \$3.75 postpaid
25 extra filters75 postpaid

This respirator is an absolute must for use when cleaning your loft. Get one before the dust gets you.

NF-180 Soluble (Nitrofurazone)

165 Gm. \$1.50 postpaid
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1320 Gm. \$7.00 postpaid

Effective treatment for paratyphoid and coccidiosis. I have used it myself for two years regularly and found it safe and effective.

Nitrofurazone Tablets 10 mgm

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Small dosage tablets are small enough so that you do not have to overdose your birds in order to treat them for paratyphoid or coccidiosis.

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Enough to make 50 gallons of treated solution. For respiratory diseases, also to a preventative during times of stress. 50 gallon treatment \$4.50.

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Great for putting that final bloom on the feathers.

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Regarding the Use of DDT

By ROBERT E. GULLEDGE, Jerseyville, Ill.

Wendell M. Levi's "No ill effects from the use of DDT" (American Pigeon Journal, March, 1970, page 172-173) recalled a few references to the toxicity of DDT. Look at the other side of the coin, please.

1. When DDT gets into birds it acts like a sex hormone. It changes the ability of the bird to put calcium into the shell with the result that the shells are easily broken. (Dr. V. Elving Anderson, Professor of Genetics, University of Minnesota).

2. The total number of pesticides capable of producing cancers in various organs and tissues of man and/or animals is appreciable. (Dr. W. C. Hueper, former director, National Cancer Institute).

3. High levels of pesticides have been found in tissues of persons who have died from liver diseases, cancer and high blood pressure. These side effects might not mean much to a healthy person but might mean a lot to a person who is ill. Pesticides containing DDT chlordane and dieldrin were especially singled out as agents that could increase or modify the effectiveness of drugs. (Dr. William B. Deichmann, a pharmacologist, University of Miami, address to AMA.)

4. Tests shows "clearly" that chlorinated hydrocarbons can cause tumors in mice. If we find these chemicals create problems in lower form, then we must be extremely careful how we gamble on their use in our environment. (Dr. James T. Grace, Director of Roswell Parks Memorial Institute, Boston, Mass.).

5. Human cells have been exposed in cell cultures to various chlorinated hydrocarbons, including DDT. These compounds proved toxic to the cells, and induced progressive morphological changes leading to cell destruction. (Gablicks and Friedman, M.I.Y., 1965).

6. There is reason to fear that some chemicals (including pesticides) may constitute as important a (mutagenic) risk as radiation, possibly a more serious one. (Dr. James F. Crow, U. of Wisconsin, Science and Citizens, June-July, 1968).

7. As little as 0.6 to 6 parts per billion (in the water) will kill or immobilize a shrimp population in two days. (Garden Journal, Fall, 68).

8. Experiments indicate that DDT in very small concentrations can reduce growth and photosynthesis in certain marine plankton. Such single-celled algae are the indispensable base of marine food chains, according to Dr. Charles F. Wurster, Jr., of State U of New York/Stony Brook. (Biological Conservation, January, 1969).

9. Persistent pesticides are being added to the environment by the millions of pounds each year. The 1968 production of DDT was 103.5 million pounds. Eighty-three million pounds were exported. The total production of all the other persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides was 120 million pounds, with 71 million pounds exported. Toxaphene has replaced DDT as the persistent insecticide now most-used in the U.S. (West Michigan Environmental Action Council).

The chlorinated hydrocarbons may very well be "a time bomb that will explode" and have a "disastrous ef-

fect" on our children and grandchildren. Who wants to gamble with their lives — not me.

The Proper Needle For Vaccine Injection

By MAJOR JOHN T. ERVIN, DVM, Okinawa

Reference American Pigeon Journal, December 1969 issue, pages 666 and 667, article "Paratyphoid Vaccine Inexpensive Safeguard".

It is important that you advise the readers of this Journal that information concerning instructions regarding injection of birds be clarified. In the quoted instructions by Dr. Axworthy, Standard Laboratory, Reading, Berks, England; he states a 1½" 16 gauge needle is to be used and inserted at a depth of 1 inch into the breast muscle.

A 16 gauge needle by English standards is not the same as those used in the United States. In fact it is so large that it is used to obtain blood samples from large animals. It should be readily apparent to those who were to purchase a 16 gauge needle in the U.S. that it is quite large and that its use in injecting a pigeon would be hazardous and possibly cause permanent damage to the breast muscle in addition to excess loss of blood of the bird.

I am informed by an English physician here on Okinawa that a 16 gauge needle (English standards) is equal to a 23 gauge needle by U.S. standards, approximately. Being a Veterinarian myself, I would advise the use of no larger needle than a 22 to 23 gauge needle (U.S.) for best results.

American Pigeon Journal

With Which Has Been Consolidated The American Pigeon Keeper and The Pigeon Loft
Devoted To All Branches of Pigeon Raising - - - Fancy, Utility and Racing

FRANK H. HOLLMANN, Editor and Manager

Volume 59

June, 1970

Number 6

Our Giant Homer Special

This month we present our readers with the American Giant Homer Special — an issue which is a credit to the breed and the many fine breeders who made it possible.

Robert S. Kremer of Plainfield, N.J. who served as Co-Ordinator, did an excellent job in getting the Giant Homers to submit articles, pictures and advertising. Our thanks to him and the many fine Giant Homer breeders who made this issue possible. It gives the American Giant Homer the recognition it so justly deserves.

The next Special issue will be the big King Special scheduled for November. King breeders are making plans for a big issue on their breed.

Pigeon Fanciers Convention July 23-26

Plans are being completed for the American Pigeon Fanciers Convention to be held at the Chase Park Plaza Hotel in St. Louis, Mo., July 23 to July 26. Registration will be Thursday evening, July 23. The registration fee for the Convention is \$15. This fee covers the cost of two luncheons, guest speakers, postage, miscellaneous expenses, etc. Send your registration fee to James F. Conway, Chairman, 3923 W. Pine Blvd., St. Louis, Mo., 63108.

There have been some minor changes in the program arrangements with Ralston Purina Company. Ralston Purina will sponsor a dinner at Checkerboard Square, beginning at approximately 6:00 p.m. Friday evening. There will be no formal program other than a few words of welcome from the company officials. Dick Kealy, the Purina research nutritionist, who will probably participate in the panel discussions, may have a few words to say also. Following dinner there will be approximately 30 minutes of entertainment by members of the Purina Farm show cast.

It was decided to invite visitors to attend the Purina Research Farm on the Sunday afternoon between the hours of 1 and 4, after the Convention closed. Ralston Purina is making special arrangements to have tour guides on this particular day. Participants intending to go to the farm will be requested to sign up in advance so Ralston Purina can get some idea of the transportation needed and make arrangements for buses. Possibly some will drive to the farm in their own cars. Tours will also be available on Thursday afternoon, the day of registration, for early arrivals since we have no formal program on that afternoon.

All specialty clubs are invited to set up displays supporting their breed. The St. Louis Metropolitan Pigeon Fanciers Ass'n will set up eight exhibition holes for each specialty club wishing to use them, and provide sufficient booth space for the promotion of the breed. The specialty clubs will be responsible for furnishing their exhibition specimens, setting up their displays, and manning the booths during the course of the Convention when the exhibition area is open to participants and public. Those commercial organizations desiring booth space may receive similar accommodations at no cost. Specialty clubs are encouraged to participate in this activity and to direct their inquiries to Mr. Conway, the Chairman, at the above address.

Panel discussions will be featured at the convention with prominent pigeon fanciers in charge. It should be a most worth while convention and one which will do much for the pigeon fancier.

From the Editor's Desk

Mike Treanor, Sr. of Shreveport, La., writes: "Congratulations on your fine magazine, as it is looking better and better every month."

William Hawkinson of El Monte, Calif., writes: "Congratulations on the Pageant Special. Was pleased to see myself in a group picture of Frillback fanciers and four of my birds pictured as Champions."

Dennis Roberts of Greenfield, Wis., writes: "The Trumpeter Special was excellent, a fine job of co-operation between the English and Bokhara breeders. Am hoping we can have another Tumbler Special before too long. Several have mentioned it and I hope it can be done."

Gary A. Severe of Norwalk, Calif., writes: "It was a great pleasure to meet you at the Pageant this past November. You did a great job on the Special Pageant issue and everyone connected with this publication and the show deserves a big Thank You."

We recently learned of the sudden passing of Joseph Meier of Moorestown, N.J. He had many friends in the Fancy, having bred Racing Homers years ago and later Hungarians and Modenas. He was a retired police officer of Newark, N.J. but later moved to Moorestown, N.J.

Frank Mosca of Upland, Calif., writes: "I especially enjoy the articles by George Drake of England and Cortus Koehler of California, so much so that my mailman thinks I'm crazy. I stand out by the mail box about a week before my next issue is due and drool a lot."

Martin P. H. Van Esch of Udenhout, Holland, writes: "I want to commend you on your very excellent issues of your magazine, especially the April 1969 Oriental Frill issue. I'm breeding Oriental Frills and am a member of the American Oriental Frill Club, maybe the only one on the continent."

R. K. Wagner of Forsyth, Mont., writes: "Have had considerable correspondence and conversation with the fanciers in the Northwest area. Believe me, they are going to stage a bang-up National Show next January. Even our Canadian friends in the Vancouver area have come up with a sizeable cash donation and promises of active support and participation."

J. W. Sieverling of Irving, Texas, died Wednesday, April 8th, according to a newspaper clipping received from Fred Langridge of Fort Worth, Texas. Mr. Sieverling formerly owned and operated the Oak Wood Squab Farm, and was a regular attendand at pigeon shows. He was 75 years old. He is survived by his wife and a brother Paul A. Sieverling of Dunedin, Fla.

Joseph R. Phillips of Hobart, Ind., writes: "I want to help in making the Giant Homer Special a rewarding success to those of us who raise Giant Homers, and also to the APJ for publishing it. Mr. Hollmann is publishing a wonderful magazine for our wonderful hobby of pigeons and it will remain in high esteem if we continue to send him articles that are of interest to both the novice as well as the experienced breeder."

The sudden death of Jack Turner of Pittsburg, Kans. will be a shock to the entire Pigeon Fancy. This information was received in the telephone call from Al Westling of Topeka, Kans., just as we were ready to print the last pages of this issue. Jack Turner died apparently as the result of a heart attack while mixing feed for his pigeons on Saturday, May 9th. Funeral was held Tuesday, May 12, with two of the pallbearers being pigeon fanciers, namely Al Westling and Robert Kirk of Pittsburg, Kans.

A Note Of Appreciation

We, in the American Giant Homer Association, appreciate this opportunity to bring before the pigeon fancy this Special Edition on the American Giant Homer.

No breed of pigeon has ever developed so swiftly and gained such success and prominence as the Giant Homer. In a few short years we have seen it developed from an American Creation into a beautifully headed bird with a compact body. Quite a few of the specimens of the breed shown at the National Pigeon Association's Annual Show in St. Paul, Minnesota, in January approached the Standard of Perfection.

The success of the breed can only be measured by the successes of the breeders. We are fortunate to have in the Association many outstanding breeders who not only are willing and able to develop the breed in the known patterns and colors but are striving to develop it in the rare colors as well.

We want to thank Frank H. Hollmann for this wonderful opportunity to put information on our breed in front of all pigeon fanciers both young and old. His co-operation has been most helpful and we are indebted to him for his efforts to help the entire pigeon fancy.

I want to personally thank all the members who sent in articles, photos and ads. Without their help this Special Issue on the American Giant Homer would not have been possible.

Bob Kremer

Co-Ordinator Giant Homer Special

Ron Costa of Metairie, La., writes: "Although not a Trumpeter fancier, the Special was excellent reading."

William H. Kiel of Brenham, Texas, died suddenly as a result of a heart attack on December 31. He was a prominent breeder of French Mondains. He was about 76 years of age.

Tom Barnhart of Tiffin, Ohio, who served as the judge at the District Meet of the German Beauty Homer Club at the Fremont, Ohio, show, tells us that Vic Bernard of Columbus, Ohio won the Champion German Beauty Homer with an ash red bar old cock, and not Paul Steiden, as was reported in the article on page 307 of the May issue.

Dr. Sam Peavey of Louisville, Ky., President of the NPA, writes: "I appreciated very much the April issue. Yes, it is thrilling to see what youthful vigor and outlook can do. The Trumpeter Special is a real tribute to an exciting and dedicated group of fanciers. We should all be very proud of them. I know we are. I still think the old-timers are wonderful guys, but I am sure we all want to move these younger fanciers into positions of leadership in NPA just as fast as we possibly can. Let's let them know how much we welcome and appreciate their ideas and efforts as exemplified in the beautiful Trumpeter Special. They are a credit to the Pigeon Fancy."

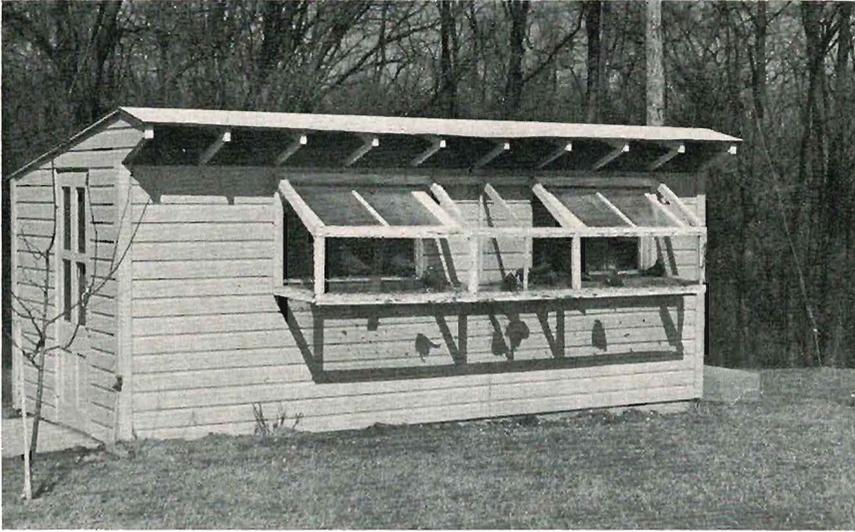
Earnie Sumerall of Tulsa, Okla., Sec.-Treas. of the English Trumpeter Club of America, writes: "On behalf of the English Trumpeter Club of America I would like to congratulate you on putting out such a fine magazine as the April Trumpeter Special. Never have we got so much response to our club and breed since the April Special was sent out. Letters have been flowing across my desk continuously asking for more information about the English Trumpeter Club of America. As our club and breed is growing steadily to one of the top breeds and organizations in the U.S.A. and Canada, I know your fine work in publicizing the English Trumpeter will long be remembered."

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A Loft For Giant Homers

This 8 x 18 foot loft is divided into a 4 by 8 foot feed room, a 6 by 8 foot young bird pen, and an 8 by 8 foot breeding pen. The overhanging roof allows winter sun to enter and shades the entire front in summer with plenty of ventilation directly under it. Awning type windows prevent rain from blowing into loft. A 2½ by 12 foot sun porch doubles as exhibition cage and makes birds easily accessible. The loft was built by Gerald E. Hobbs, Fort Madison, Iowa, for his American Giant Homers.

Breeding Tips on American Giant Homers

By GERALD E. HOBBS, Fort Madison, Iowa

How can I raise that bird that will be first in his class or wonder of wonders, champion of the show? That is the question asked by many beginners and pondered by some of us that have been at it a few years. Well, the answers are, a little knowledge, money, labor and luck. Take away any of the first three and you probably won't have much of the last, so let's dwell on them.

The first thing to learn is the Standard, not just the words, or points, or disqualifications, but the image, feel and even skeleton of it. Know in your mind's eye what that bird of balance and beauty looks like. I went through a lot of apparently wasted effort a couple of years ago in drawing the three views of the standard. They weren't adopted but the time wasn't wasted either. I learned more from trying to put that down on paper than I will from reading and looking at the Standard a hundred times. There are other ways of learning the Standard too, such as listening to the judge and handling the birds as someone explains the feel of the body. Try to judge a small show, often a painful but quick way. Try making a wood carving or clay model of the model. Visit the lofts of well known breeders in your area and ask a lot of questions. Their knowledge isn't necessarily yours but if you put it to work and it gives you results, it is yours. See what they mean by long keel and deep body and get that hard, satin, well muscled feel in your hand and imprinted indelibly upon your mind. See those big handsome heads from all angles and feel the bone in the head and jaw. Make a gauge out of your hand for measuring girth, depths and lengths.

Another area of knowledge that will give you a tremendous advantage is genetics. The book "The Pigeon" has a good chapter that is passed over by a lot of breeders as being hogwash or a bunch of complicated theories. A knowledge of genetics will help you to breed the colors you want, determine the sex of squabs, eliminate undesirable characteristics, know the odds of raising specific colors from a pair of birds and open up a whole new field of interest in raising pigeons. We have many knowledgeable men on genetics in Giant Homers that will expound elsewhere in this publication on the facts of color inheritance. Several of our disqualifications are purely recessive such as pearl eyes, feathered feet, crests and when two such parents show the same recessive characteristics you can expect all the young ones to show it. When only one parent shows it and the other carries it hidden one half the youngsters will show it and the other one half will carry it hidden. When two of these youngsters carry the trait hidden are mated, one quarter will show it, one half carry it hidden, and only one quarter will be genetically free of it. If one parent carries it hidden and the other is free of it then one half will be free of it and one half carry it hidden, but none will show it. So you can see why it is detrimental to use birds showing these recessive faults. Of course if you want to perpetuate a recessive trait that is desirable, these same percentages work to your advantage.

Money is not as important as the other two factors but it is vital as to when, where and how to invest it. A beginner shouldn't buy a whole loft of high priced birds and expect

to go out and win it all. First get some moderate priced but good quality and prolific birds. Learn their habits, how to recognize and treat specific diseases, how to mate to correct different faults and which faults are the hardest to correct. It is a test period also to see that your loft is dry and free of rats and mice and what type nests and pen arrangements work best. Many beginners throw good money (and birds) away by loss to disease, varmits or ignorance of the basics. Now you are ready to start your show line. Prices alone don't make quality, but don't expect to get the good ones for what you paid for your first. Consider the amount of time, culling, showing, traveling, studying and upgrading of the breeder represented, for which you are only paying cash. In terms of feed alone for birds you raise, you are paying about \$6.50 a pair per year to raise their squabs just to weaning age, and probably another \$1.50 to raise each prospect kept to six months of age. So if you raise just one good bird out of a pair and eight culls, that one bird represents 9 x \$1.25 plus \$6.50 equals \$17.75 investment. It doesn't make sense to try to buy good stock birds at \$10 a pair or try to raise them out of your old strain which will only produce one out of nine good show birds. Don't buy your birds from old Joe Blow just because he lives close and really sounds like he knows what he is talking about or Dealer Dan that has a big spread of advertising but you never see his name in the show reports. Now join your American Giant Homer Association, if you haven't already, and check the show reports given in their bulletins.

If you feel you can't afford birds from the old pro that places at the top, even though later you may find you couldn't have afforded not to, check over the guys that are finishing in the upper half but seldom at the bottom. He may not sell you his winners, in fact, if he expects to stay in the game, he won't even set a price on them but you can probably buy birds that are very closely related to the winners and carry the gene pool, but just need a little balancing. Ask his advice on how to make them and have a go at it. Don't make the mistake of thinking "now, here is where I can really improve that old strain." Forget that. Chances are all you will do is drag the new one down. If that pair satisfies you, go back for more and work the young ones into each other, not your old strain, because by now you should have decided to get rid of them. If you haven't, maybe you should be looking around for another strain of birds from a different breeder. Often breeders with the show winners have newly acquired them and won't sell birds but highly praise the birds and the supplier. You should then go to the headwaters and get your show stock.

Some things to watch in buying stock birds that are difficult to overcome are tall, rangy birds. These will show a long thin neck, long thin head and long tarsal bone. Shortness is the keynote here. Pick that bone with short height to the hock and plenty

of thickness. The hind toes on some short birds are often abnormally short, a subtle thing to be sure but a good indicator. Feel the bone behind the wattle, if it dips between the wattle and eye in width or height, it isn't the head it appears to be and may not reproduce good heads. Get the bird with a good frame, i.e. a long deep keel, funnel shaped rump, no hinge in the tail and good width in the breast. Avoid the thin, sharp keeled birds. A lot is written on condition but if you notice, some are almost always padded in the same loft as the bony ones. Pigeons and people are alike in the respect that some have a natural tendency to be thin, some athletic and some obese and it runs in the family. Diet and work makes some difference but not as much as it could if they have the desired genetic make-up. Be careful of the bird whose throat goes back as far as the center of the eye.

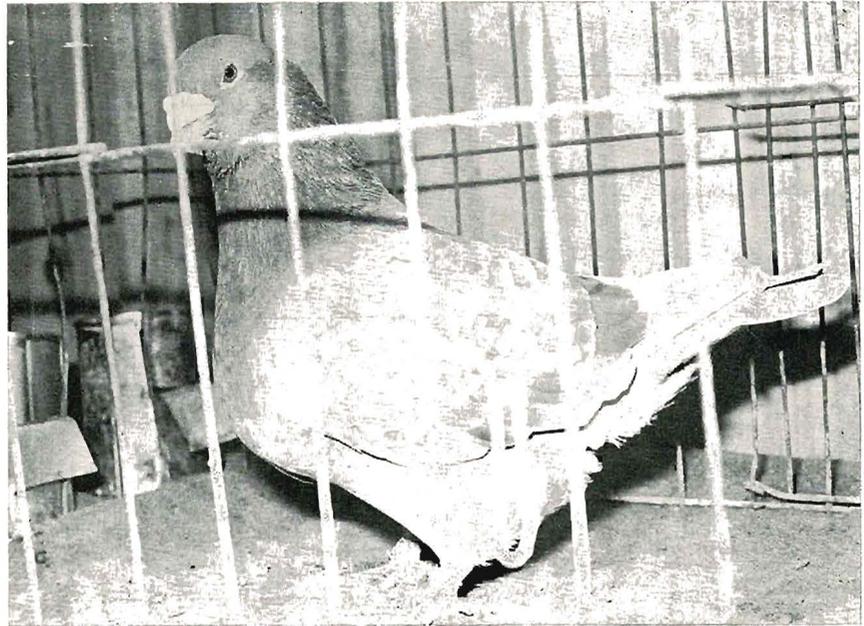
Assuming they have no common faults, mate your best two old birds together. Research shows two old birds will average about nine young a season and an old bird x young bird, either sex, about seven young and two young birds together about three. Consider these as ratios and adjust to the length of the season and prolificness of your strain.

Invest in the best feed, grit and medicine available but don't over medicate. Usually individual isolation and treatment will do better and often less harm than flock treatment if you are observant to catch it in time.

Keep your loft clean but wear a mask when cleaning it. The dust may be bad for your lungs and can cause an allergy. Don't go overboard on cleaning out the nests. Let the droppings accumulate into a bowl shape and when they get too full, pick out just the center and put in fresh straw. This will prevent a lot of crooked keels.

Get a good record book to list the pairs, ancestors, when eggs were laid, squabs hatched and general description of the old birds and youngsters. As time goes on you will learn the value of records and you will want to make these more detailed but wish you had from the start. Don't try to keep the records in your head or they will get lost especially in the years to come. Records can be reviewed to check production of the pair, allowing for age as mentioned previously, and the quality of the young to see if they measure up. Don't leave those pairs mated together too long. Three or four clutches are enough.

You say you don't want to break them up because they really "nick"? How many more can you use than six or seven out of one pair for next year's matings? Besides, after the first part of the year, the later hatched youngsters would be too young to show and this period gives you an opportunity to test each individual parent as to its own strengths and weaknesses. Who knows, one of them may produce even stronger birds with a different mate, indicating the cornerstone of your building program. These types of matings will give you closely related youngsters to work together, if youngsters out of the



An Outstanding American Giant Homer

This Ash Red Check Giant Homer Cock is the father of the 1969 and 1970 National Show winners. Bred by E. M. Blaine, Dallas Center, Iowa, now owned by Ray Greene, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

three matings appear right for one another. Remating seems to renew the ardor and drive of pairs to make them more prolific and you learn much more about the hidden factors of the individual bird by frequent rematings. I had one outstanding cock mated on five different hens last year, producing handsome birds with each hen. Imagine the potential of a bird used in this switching, and this old Casanova proved he truly is a champion.

Work also at showing your birds as to selecting and preparing. Pick those feathers off their toes and shanks,

bathe them, (add a little Lux soap flakes) train them for the show pen, build adequate shipping crates and get them in condition.

Don't be stingy, spread your hobby and Giant Homers around a little. Get anyone you can, young or old interested. Invite them to your loft, visit theirs, help them with their matings, even provide the birds if necessary. The hours of companionship and the competition are worth the effort. Yes, competition, because competition is your asset. It will keep you on your toes, extend yourself and force you to improve your stock. You will find the effort worth while.

The Squab Production Phase of Giant Homers

By IRVIN T. GOSS, Venice, Fla.

Health is the most important asset for squab production. It definitely takes healthy, strong hard-working birds to produce profitably over a period of years. I have worked with most all of the utility breeds and a number of strains of Racing Homers and as expected I found the Racing Homers to be healthy, strong, fast-working birds and much the best in fertility, hatchability and livability. But because of the size and skin color of the squabs, Racing Homers are not satisfactory on a commercial squab farm.

In the Utility Breeds, I found the American Giant Homers to be fast, hard-working birds that produce squabs with good full breasts that weigh 10 to 15 pounds to the dozen. Giant Homers excel in health and breed profitably for a number of years, which, no doubt, is due to the fact that Racing Homers were used extensively in Giant Homer make-up and are still used when new blood is

needed.

It is very true that in the early years of Giant Homers, they did produce some dark-skinned squabs because most of the birds were of the Intense Phases in Ash-red and Blue-black. But with the introduction of "faded", "Smoky," and "Reduced", very good skin color can be produced in all phases.

"Faded" is the simplest to introduce into a stud of birds because it is Dominant and Sex-linked to the primary colors, both traits being admirable in that they combine to present self-sexing and excellent skin color.

"Reduced" is sex-linked and a recessive factor and can be used successfully in any color. Browns of the Intense Phase, Whites and Reds masking the Intense Phases of Ash-red and Blue-blacks are good strong, healthy producers of good skin color in squabs.

Birds of the Dilute Phases, it is
(Continued on page 357.)



Grand Champion American Giant Homer

This White Cock, Band No. 77, was the Grand Champion Giant Homer at the Seventh District Meet of the AGHA held at Fresno, Calif. in 1964. It was also the Best White and Best Young Cock at the National Show held at Dallas, Texas in 1965. — Bred by Amos E. Hodson, Los Alamitos, Calif.

Reminiscing About Giant Homers

By AMOS E. HODSON, Los Alamitos, Calif.

By the time I was a sophomore in high school, in a small town in Iowa, I had several years of pigeon experience behind me. I had caught my share of barn pigeons, settled them at my home and enjoyed their free flight, especially in the Springtime. Later switched to squabbing type Swiss Mondaines, squabbing Kings, and second grade show Carneaux, it was spelled with an x in those days. Then a fortunate experience, I met Ed Ryan and became introduced to Giant Homers. Ed ran a local squab ranch and kept many breeds of pigeons. He had rose-wing Carneaux, Mondaines, Kings, and his favorite the American Giant Homer. His stock was obtained from Keene, Fowler and "Hap." Beat-tie. Recently, "Hap." has again taken up the breed I understand. We used to correspond often.

It was 1937 and my interest switched to Giant Homers. About this time I read in the APJ that Arthur Barnes of Auburn, Illinois was selling his stud of Giants. I wrote him and received four pairs. There was a blue check splash, bred by Irvin Goss, that was one-half Show Racer. There was a silver check cock and a silver bar hen that were in the New Jersey Squab Breeding Contest. Another pair was a blue bar cock and a brown check hen, and a terrific silver check hen, I recall. The price was \$4.50 a pair and they were really nice birds and bred nice youngsters. I didn't know what it was to buy feed, so the birds got whatever the railroad cars had that week. Sometimes they had nothing but soy beans for weeks, but they prospered.

In 1940 I came to California and left

the birds behind. In 1952, after the war, I married and settled in Long Beach. Barlow, Fisher, Goss, Wenck and Gibson were the big guns at this time. I put white Giant Homers from J. D. Jacks in the backyard before I planted grass. In no time I found out about the Pageant of Pigeons and attended my first show. My mouth watered when I saw Giants shown by Tony Anthony and Jack Rollins. I didn't know it was possible to breed a Giant with an elevated tail, as shown in the Ideal, until I saw these birds at the Pageant. In a short time I had three pairs of birds from Jack Rollins, and a few birds from Barlow, Goss, and Wenck. Later, I showed

Priority of Characteristics of Show Type Giant Homers

By AMOS E. HODSON, Los Alamitos, Calif.

This breed is a utility pigeon, so it is natural that the body should carry first priority. This is also consistent with the points allowed by the Standard. When we speak of body we are not necessarily referring to body size, but rather conformation of the body. Naturally, the name of the breed suggests a large pigeon and we do want size in the breed. You will find, however, that bigness is one of the easiest characteristics to acquire. Now, let's talk about body conformation. We desire width of breast, a long, deep and straight keel, coupled with a narrow rump and a whipped, one feather, tail. When a bird is held in the hand it should feel wide, deep, short and with a good wedge from

some of their offspring at the Pomona Fair. After this show, Joe Frazier visited me and he became interested in colored Giants. He had bred whites up to then. Then in rapid order Wylie McCrary and Earl Deal came by. In a short time the Western Giant Homer Club evolved.

About this time Ed Blaine, a super Giant breeder, moved to Tucson, Arizona. This was about 1954. Deal, Frazier, McCrary and I visited Ed and returned with some excellent breeding stock. Deal and Frazier made many return trips to Ed's to pick up his excess. Now our local club really flourished. There must have been nearly thirty local breeders, in and around Los Angeles. Names such as Rich, Duke, Fentriss, Labarre, Lackey, East, Haas, Ingraham, Walters, Rinden, Duncan, Brown Whetmore, just to name a few. As time went on the expertise of Frazier and Hodson racked up too many winners. Occasionally, Gaona, Yslas, McCrary, Deal, Fentriss or Whetmore would counter, but the heavy blows were being landed by Frazier or Hodson. Gradually, disheartened, most of the local breeders sunk into oblivion. As Truman said, "they couldn't stand the heat so they got out of the kitchen."

To be fair it must also be said that some left the Giant ranks for other reasons and could have been successful breeders if they had persevered. Local game being scarce, Frazier trekked to the Nationals to seek his prey and was immediately successful in taking top honors. Later Hodson followed suit with the same results. About this time, a period from mid-50's to mid-60's Frazier was strong in solids and Hodson in whites. In the mid 60's Frazier started to spend more time with Kings and lost some interest, but is more active now.

In 1968 I sold my stud to devote more time to Show Racers. Fred Langridge has been loyal to Giants for many years and has bred many good birds lately. Other breeders whose stars are shining are Greene, Frye, Hobbs, Brooks, Williamson, Wagner, Grulke, Klann McKenzie, etc., but no breeder is dominating the shows today in depth. Perhaps, it is time for one of these stars to outshine the rest. Which one will it be?

shoulders to tail.

Now, that most of our birds have nearly the correct feel we must select for station. Start eliminating birds that hold their tails too low, birds whose backs are not straight, and birds without proper thickness of bone and with legs close together. Pay attention to correct leg setting and leg angle. Our birds are now starting to look and feel like the Standard and we are starting to win in the shows.

Next we must move to the head and neck. We are looking for a Homer type head on this breed. Select birds with a profile showing an unbroken sweep from tip of beak to the back of the head. A bad fault

is a dip or stop right behind the wattle. Select for good width between the eyes. The neck should be thick and stout to blend the head and neck together.

At present, many of the top show birds have better heads than the Standard. The Show Racer has been used to cross into the American Giant Homer to improve head, neck and eye color. I personally know that the top breeders have done this crossing for more than thirty years and I used the Show Racer in the mid-fifties.

It is now time to pay attention to the fine points and good back cover is one of the most important. Poor back cover in my experience is very dominate and therefore I hate to see a bird with very poor cover go high at a show. Continue to select for good eye color, hard tight feather, and docility and the trophies are bound to come your way.

Giant Homers An Average Man's Breed

By E. C. WENCK, Oconomowoc, Wis.

I started with Giant Homers back in the depression days of 1931. The birds were big, strong and fast producers, also hearty eaters. I had trouble keeping feed in the barn, but they really kept squabs on the table. That's when they started calling me "Tubby"! Through the years the Giants have been very good to me and have bought me two new Chevys. I have sold all over these United States and I have always given good value. These Giants have brought me "repeat sales". When I took over the job of Secretary of the Association (a job which I held for many years) I corresponded with many of the oldtime breeders. Some of them are gone now and some of them no longer have Giants, but they all continue to show interest in the breed and the Association. (Those who are still around do, anyway.)

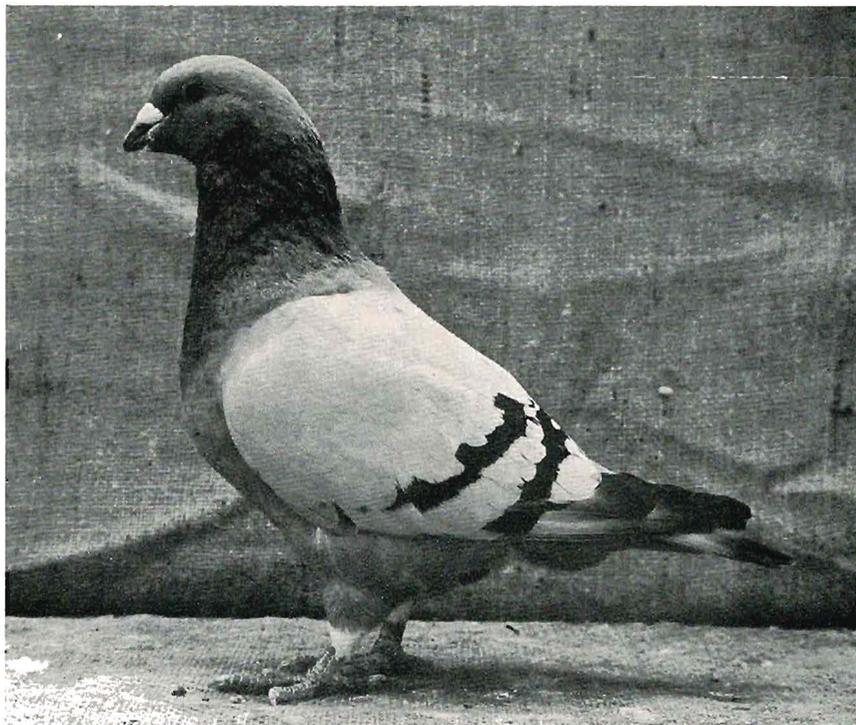
You must remember that the Giant Homer is an average man's breed. No fancy frills or high prices, but a good

A.O.C. Inflation in American Giant Homers

By W. F. HOLLANDER, Ames, Iowa

Starting as a squabbing breed, the American Giant Homer was bred mostly in ordinary colors, with emphasis on light skin. White, red, yellow, silver, dun, and some blues, that was the typical run. The first real innovation came about 1943, when George Stearns introduced his "Dual-colored" (auto-sexing) strain. For some years this was quite popular, and probably some of them still are being bred, but the squab business was dying for other reasons. Meanwhile the emphasis shifted to the showroom, and Stearns' long-feathered squabbers gave way to more and more cobby type.

But the color virus had struck the Giant Homer and the boys were no longer leery of something new. They had learned that a color from Tumblers could actually be transferred to Giant Homer with no other Tumbler



Grand Champion at Dallas National

This A.O.C. American Giant Homer Cock, Band No. 3012, was the Grand Champion at National Show held at Dallas, Texas, in 1965. Also Best Old Cock at the National Show held at Costa Mesa, Calif. in 1966; Best A.O.C. Old Cock at the National Show held at Milwaukee, Wis. in 1967. Picture was taken when the bird was in the moult. — Bred by Amos E. Hodson, Los Alamitos, Calif.

all-American breed with plenty of colors and a tremendous body to strain the eye of a novice or an old-timer. All the breed needs nowadays is for everyone to get behind it and push it to the top. Too many of us leave the work and the shouting to the other guy. We should all get on the Giant Homer Bandwagon. I have really enjoyed myself over the years, making the various district and National Shows. I hope to continue to do so as long as I can.

dun, blue, black system still covered most entries. Sorry Irv, your birds just gotta go in A.O.C. They are still rare colors. Well, that was a heck of a note — A.O.C.

For a while the boys tried to have a "rare color" class, but judging it was a problem — should the prize go to the rarest or the prettiest? And who knew which was which? So back to A.O.C. But such discouragements don't stop a dyed-in-the-wool color nut. New colors still kept blossoming out — especially pastel shades based on Carl Graefe's "reduced" factor. It was obvious to anyone that a winner for type could be out of this world for color.

Some new recruits to the Giant Homer Fancy liked the colors but the mysteries of controlling them were frightening. The poor novice got cold feet when told that this here beautiful bird was reduced ash-red grizzle dominant opal T pattern. Might as well tell him beryllium hydroxy apatite carborundum. Or A.O.C. Well, if curiosity gets the upper hand, I may get a letter asking how to breed for example "ivory" or "pearl pink" or "mauve gray", etc. But I don't even know what they are, after years of kibitzing in this game. Maybe if Mr. Novice sends me some sample feathers I can figure what he has; also feathers from the bird's parents give more clues. Almost always I recommend a breeding test with the old reliable standard of reference, blue bar (wild color). Back and forth go the feather samples in the mail till diagnosis is accomplished. Sometimes

(Continued on page 357.)

Breeding Recessive Reds and Yellows

By GERALD E. HOBBS, Fort Madison, Iowa



RECESSIVE RED GIANT HOMER

Recessive Red Giant Homer Hen, mother to 1522, 1524 and 1511 black check best young hen at the 1969 National Show. Good head, muzzle, neck, wings and breast. Poor beak but was O.K. on the youngsters. — Photo from Gerald E. Hobbs, Fort Madison, Iowa.

A few experiences with red and yellow Giant Homers might help some of the younger breeders who wish to work on these colors, and they do need a lot of work, even though they are bred in good numbers and are attractive. Probably the reason they are inferior to some of the other colors is that we concentrate too much on color and not enough on type. Also recessive reds and yellows in Show Racers were not available in the formation of Giant Homers of these colors.

The best results are often obtained in a roundabout way. A red or yellow is mated with a good show specimen of Giant Homer of some other solid color. The best young of this mating is then mated onto red and yellow again. You will probably get no reds or yellows on the first mating and only about half on the second mating, but these reds and yellows mated to red or yellow won't throw any other color.

It is best not to be concerned with clear color at first but to get good



NATIONAL SHOW WINNER

This Recessive Red American Giant Homer, Band No. 1524-'69, was the Best Young Giant Homer at the 1970 St. Paul National Show. A son of Cock No. 4904. — Bred and owned by Gerald E. Hobbs, Fort Madison, Iowa.

show type. One of the main problems in these colors is length, too much everywhere! Tails, necks, legs, and beaks need to be shortened on most strains, including mine, before much success can be had in the showrooms. Light eyes seem to be a frequent fault to avoid. Once there, it comes popping out sooner or later.

Once you have gotten type, the most natural desire is to improve color. Even though there are no points on color, few judges can disregard it when placing the reds and yellows.

For good color some will say, "Never use any other color on reds and yellows." I say this is bunk! Others will say, "Don't breed red x red or yellow x yellow over several generations." This is bunk, too!

If you are careful in the first place when you mate to a solid that has a rich sheen, not only on his breast but on the back and coverts, you should get even better-colored reds and yellows eventually. This iridescence may be transmitted from one color to another. It is sometimes accompanied by grease quills along the sides near the tail and under the fluff of a bird. These have an oily, yellow quill in which the feather never fans out. The sheen is found mostly in blacks, which have proved the best for me. But you may find it in duns,

Early Components of our Present Day Giant Homer

By J. J. KEIFER, Louisville, Ky.

I will attempt to relate in this limited space a brief history in accordance with my experience as a breeder and judge and of my association with my friend Dr. R. W. Keene of O'Bannon, Kentucky, now deceased, and my several acquaintances, with my friend W. P. Gray of Darien, Connecticut, now also deceased.

These two outstanding names I believe many of you will agree were the foundation pillar and responsible for the present American Giant Homer. Understand there are many good breeders today that reflect in my memory at this writing, who have done much toward the development and progress of our present breed — such as Goss, Blaine, Fowler, Steiden, Williams of Kentucky, Graefe of Ohio, Dare and Huber of New Jersey, Jones of Carolina and Willis of Texas, Taylor of California, and Beattie of Oklahoma, Fisher and Wenck of Wisconsin, and Barlow of Illinois.

It was during the years 1910 and 1911, as well as I can remember, that I became acquainted with my good friend the late R. W. Keene. I was exhibiting Racing Homers as well as other breeds of pigeons at that time when our State Fair Pigeon Show was held at our present Churchill Downs Race Course. Dr. Keene was then also an exhibitor of a few oversized Working Homers that he used for squabbers and which he had entered in the Utility Classes.

Some of you can well remember the

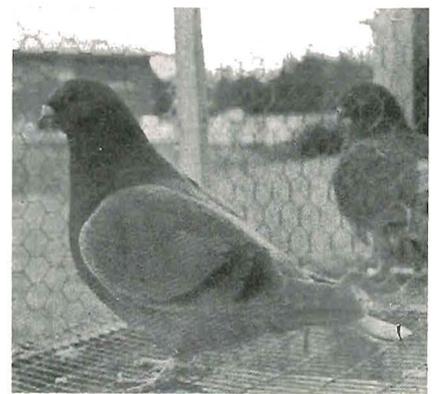
browns and Indigo. We have never had much luck in using bars and checks as patterns give us problems, but this doesn't say it can't be done.

Some of our best colored reds are from reds x reds for several generations. So many that they contain no dilution, and when the cocks are bred to yellow hens they produce only red cocks and hens. This richness of color seems to be a recessive trait, so when two rich reds or yellows are bred together they stay a good color which is a point in your favor. However, a yellow x yellow for several generations does seem to have some inherent weakness for livability connected with dilution.

Now a red x yellow mating is not a bad one, in fact it is a good one if the parents are both a good color. Some do not understand what shade of color is desirable, particularly in yellow. The red should be a deep wine color, unblemished anywhere. The yellow should be a deep apricot color not pale. These colors should carry through under the wings and as far down on each feather as possible. They are often accompanied with a very pleasurable slick satin feeling when handling the bird. The blemishes are smoky-looking and occur on back and tail and called smut.

If any of you young fellows are looking for a challenge, you will find it in trying to improve recessive reds and yellows, plus a lot of satisfaction, too.

Elmer Rice advertisement of the Plymouth Rock Squab Co. Well, Dr. Keene was inoculated with Rice's advertisement, "A Profitable Business Producing Squabs for the Market," so he purchased a few Jumbo Homers to cross with his. But this venture did not prove very successful, so Dr. Keene gave up the idea of breeding squabs for profit and later took up the breeding of the Jacobin pigeon with which he soon became Master Breeder and Exhibitor and was awarded many blue ribbons.



ASH RED BAR COCK

This Ash Red Bar Giant Homer Cock, Band No. 1522-'69, is a son of 4904. Good head, beak, neck, back and wing butts. Poor flights and back cover. — Bred and owned by Gerald E. Hobbs, Fort Madison, Iowa.



CHAMPION GIANT HOMER

This American Giant Homer Cock, Band No. 4904-'67, was the Champion Giant Homer at both 1968 and 1969 National Shows. Note the round head, heavy skull; thick, well tapered neck; powerful breast width and well spread leg stance. — Bred and owned by Gerald E. Hobbs, Fort Madison, Iowa.

I presume that you are beginning to wonder just what has this biography here to do with the breeding and development of the American Giant Homer. I thought perhaps a little history of how a man credited as a part of one of those two gentlemen who started developing our American Giant Homer would be interesting to the reader.

It was not until several years later that Dr. Keene's love was again attracted towards the breeding and producing a breed of pigeon that would produce a good, plump squab for the markets, as well as for exhibition in the showroom. He then purchased a small farm at O'Bannon, Kentucky, just 14 miles east of Louisville, and here is where the foundation was laid when he undertook extensive breeding and development of the American Giant Homer, and the French Gros Mondain.

At that time, I was then managing the breeding lofts of the late John G. Epping who also specialized in breeds such as the French Gros Mondain, Hungarians and Silver Kings. It was during that time while on my many judging trips throughout the United States that I had the opportunity of a wide territory to choose occasionally for both Mr. Epping and Dr. Keene, especially the latter, in obtaining foundation material that was used to make up some part of the American Giant Homer — which is the question often asked by many, "just what breeds are credited in the make-up of our American Giant Homer?"

The general impression to many in the fancy is that the American Giant Homer is no other than an oversized working Homer, with a touch of King added. Such is not the case. There is a decided difference in the ordinary working Homer and our breed and it is mainly in body construction, type

and station. One must be familiar in the breeding of the American Giant Homer in order to appreciate the differences. I will attempt to enumerate in my own way the breeds that tend to have some tracing in the development of our present American Giant Homer.

First, we start with the Working Homer, then the Coburg Lark for its very deep breast and length of keel; add to this the French Gros Mondain Dunard (Do not confuse with our American French Mondain). The Dunard is noted for that exceptional width of breast, stout short neck and tapered wedge-shaped body and full rump. Into the boiling pot next went the Show Homer for that short, strongly built body, well-rounded chest and

broad, full back and strong, big-boned, well-set legs. Then came the Exhibition Homer for its smooth, tight finish, hard feather, lending, also, that appearance of a nice, straight-faced bird which eliminated the downsweep of head so characteristic of the Show Homer. And last the Antwerp for its short face and good stout frontal and substance of beak.

Many of you may not agree, but from my actual experience and close association with Dr. Keene concerning the breeding and development of the American Giant Homer proved that some part of each of the breeds mentioned above played an important part in the creation of this attractive breed the American Giant Homer.

Pigeon Raising as a Hobby For Profit

By KARL E. CLENDENING, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Is pigeon raising profitable? Let me tell you my experience. In 1962 my boys brought home four pair of pigeons — a pair of Rollers, Racing Homers, Show Racers and Hungarians. A few months later a friend of my boys said he had 25 to 30 birds he would sell for \$5. Being in the poultry and feed business, I decided to buy them as they were larger than the usual pigeons, and raised squabs to dress for the market.

A short while later I showed them to a pigeon fancier that had come for feed. He recognized an A.O.C. Giant Homer cock that had won first place in Watertown, Wis. It would have been a shame to mate a bird with that record with just any old pigeon. One of the men that knew the bird said he had a blue bar Giant Homer hen that I could use to raise a few. Wow! The colors that pair produced. All white, all black, andalusian, andalusian bar, and A.O.C. Isn't that interesting? Especially to someone that had no knowledge of pigeons or genetics. I was hooked! When other fanciers find out you have the bug, you meet some awfully nice people, and make some new and good friends.

I started to show some of my young birds in shows. Needless to say, I didn't do very well. One was too long, one too shallow, they didn't stand right. I found there was a lot more to this hobby than just feeding and watering them. It began to be an exciting challenge.

Being in the poultry business, I was leaning toward the whites because they were easier to dress. I was the only one showing whites locally in those days — 1964 and 1965. They were the first ones out, when they were put up against colors. Why didn't more people raise whites? The answer I got was: "They are too hard to get good type and hold it. Very few are ever champions". I found out it had been done before and I am hoping it can be done again.

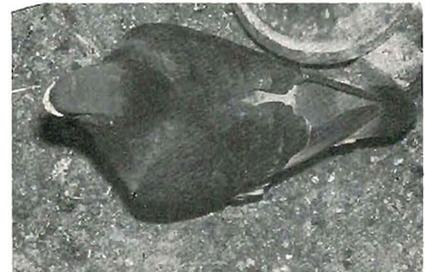
The lower odds stirred my sporting blood and made it more exciting. Each year I learn a little more. Winning some first places gave me an incentive to try to keep on improving. I'm always encouraged by the anticipation

of the new birds.

Is pigeon raising as a hobby profitable? It depends on what kind of profit you want. One day the business had not gone right. Everything went wrong. I could not seem to satisfy anyone and my stomach was in knots. It was time to feed and water the birds. The youngsters were looking pretty good. I decided I would put them in the show coop, and look them over. 1039 looked like a pretty good bird right then. Big head, neck and body. He might be a little high on his legs. Maybe as he developed he wouldn't carry himself so high. 1040, his sister, looked good too. Maybe a little small. I liked those two birds. The other six didn't look bad either. Looked like the next year would be pretty good. Time to lock the office and go to the house. I was hungry, but relaxed.

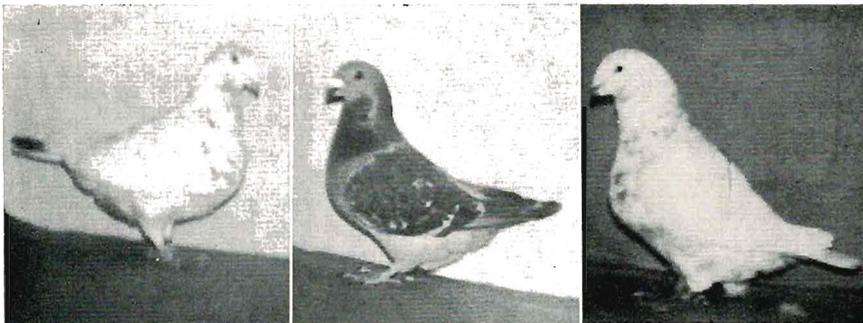
I was up early the next morning. Had a truck waiting with 25,000 lbs. to unload. About half of it had to be reloaded on my smaller truck for delivery that day. By four o'clock all orders were out and things had gone smooth but I was dead tired. Time to feed and water the birds again. Guess I'd put 1039 in the show coop and look at him again. 1041 was a pretty good looking hen too. What was she from? How about it, they were cousins, and she was out of a hen that had won first the year before.

(Continued on page 361.)



CHAMPION GIANT HOMER

Another view of Giant Homer Cock 4904-'67, Champion at both 1968 and 1969 National Shows. This top view shows width of head, wedge of body, whip of wings and one broad feather tail. — Bred and owned by Gerald E. Hobbs, Fort Madison, Iowa.



Three Prize Winning American Giant Homers

First picture shows an A.O.C. Old Hen, Band No. Gh-2907, an outstanding bird in her class. Along with many first, this hen won at four consecutive National Shows beginning at Asbury Park, N.J. as a Young Hen and winning at the next three National Shows as an Old Hen. She has also won at many District Meets. Second picture shows a Black Check Young Hen, Band No. GH-859. Champion at the First District Meet held at York, Pa. in 1969. Third picture shows an A.O.C. Old Cock, Band No. GH-2941. Champion at the Fourth District Meet held at Watertown, Wis. in 1964. — All three Giant Homers bred and owned by Ted Grulke, Oconomowoc, Wis.

What Is This American Giant Homer?

By TED GRULKE, President American Giant Homer Ass'n, Oconomowoc, Wis.

The American Giant Homer — "A Breed Fit for the Showroom That Can Outproduce Any Other Pigeon On Earth." This has been our motto since almost the origination of our breed of pigeon and still rings true today. What a picture of beauty when you walk up and down the rows of Giant Homers at a pigeon show or watch them strut in front of a judge or just watch them nonchalantly at work or play in your loft.

No other breed of pigeon can compare with the nice features assembled on one pigeon. Take the head with its beautiful contours, a curved line from the tip of the beak to the top of the head with a setting of a wide top skull, flowing back to a full neck, tapering gradually into a broad, wedge-shaped, deep, long keeled body. This is followed up by a short one feathered appearing tail set on a well rounded, firm tapering rump. You put this all together and set it on stout, medium length legs set apart to give good alert balance. You add a medium fine wattle, red colored eyes with a twinkle in them and how else can one describe these as none other than the "Darlings of the Utilities," the Giant Homer.

All American Giant Homers don't come up to this description as we all know our breed as any other breed of pigeon has its shortcomings, their ups and downs. We have many points of our Standard to contend with in trying to come up with a bird as I have described. We not only have to take into consideration all the above mentioned but more outstanding points which cover a good share of the points in our standard, but also some of the lesser points but none the less important as they can mean disqualification or cutting of points.

I have touched a bit on the first phrase of our motto and now would like to go into the second part of it, "A breed that can outproduce any other pigeon on earth." As all of us know who breed and raise American Giant Homers and want the rest of

pigeondom to know we have a pigeon here that is not only beautiful but a most vigorous, prolific, mild tempered breeder of large squabs. We hear from all corners of this great continent how our Giant Homers produce. Because of these good reports, we are getting many new inquiries every year on the availability of breeding stock, especially for squabbing. We have a wide variety of colors in Giant Homers and several are excellent for producing light skinned squabs, the most popular being Recessive Reds and Yellows and Whites. I have had some combinations of Duns and Andalusian Blues that gave me exceptional light skinned squabs. Other breeders no doubt have come up with other combinations but I will let them tell about their experiences.

To back up our motto a bit more I might say that maybe we don't have quite as many youngsters during the breeding as some of the smaller varieties of pigeons but pound for pound I am sure our American Giant Homer takes a back seat to no other breed, and yet comes up with large enough squabs to be saleable. As in any type of specialty breeding, we have to be more concerned as we feature a dual type breed of pigeon so selective breeding is of the utmost importance. This is where we have heard it said time and again that it is important to keep accurate records, cull close and keep good sanitary loft conditions. If we do this, we can hold true to our motto and say that we do have the "Gem of the Utilities," the outstanding dual purpose pigeon.

To dabble a bit here and there I would like to talk a little about our Standard. We have a good Standard with a few revisions and clarifications to be worked on. I guess as in every other club there is always someone who wants to change certain parts of Standards but by and large most of the Giant Homer fanciers have to go a long way to produce birds that this Standard calls for. We have come a long way. In respect to the fine dis-

play we had at the last St. Paul National — I cannot remember seeing so many good looking Giants that came so close to the Standard in one show.

Then too, I think each member's interpretation of the Standard has a lot to do with the types of Giant Homers we are seeing at shows. It is up to each individual member to read and study the Standard thoroughly, draw a mental picture of the ideal Giant Homer and know the points and in so doing we will come up with more uniform Giant Homers at our shows. This holds true too for every other breed of pigeon and if this were adhered to by everyone we would have less gripes and more fun at all our shows, so take it for what it is worth. I can never stress this point enough and that is to know your Standard and your birds.

Then we get into judging. Taking into consideration we are all human where belies the difference in types of pigeons, and especially Giant Homers raised and shown, and also gives us a difference in judging. We hear of Head Judges, Tail Judges, Body Judges, Rump Judges, and what have you, and yet we have 100 points to consider and work with on the overall Giant Homer. I heartily recommend that our judges, above all, read, study and know the Standard and points so as to pass judgment more uniformly. I know other varieties have licensed judges but is that really the answer. As I stated before, we are all human and can see things differently from one another. What I do know is that we all, raising any kind of show pigeon spend a whole year of sweat and blood, pampering, fussing and extra time with our birds to raise some good ones to show and do want and expect these birds to be placed fairly. I'd like to stress the following point too and that is to get more members interested in judging. We have a good number of members showing top flight Giant Homers and from these we should come up with top flight judges. I'll have to admit it takes lots of guts to stand up there and do the honors one time and then go through them again with each individual member.

Judges coming from within our ranks was another good example of the fine job that was done at the last two Nationals. We had two of the largest entries that we have had at any National and these two men went through the classes coolly, collectively and did a thorough job in placing the Giant Homers. As for me, I love to judge Giant Homers but I also like to show them too. I love competition, be it with baseball, bowling or pigeons or whatever I do, so this has sort of kept me away from judging as I have been fortunate to come up with some fairly good show birds each year (even though sometimes they are too fat), and have preferred to show. If I don't win this year, and usually I can see why I don't, I work that much harder for next, trying to pinpoint my pitfalls and correct them. We do though need more members to take an interest and active part in judging so we can obtain the uniformity we strive for.

We do have a hard working Secretary and a Publicity Director who is putting out a wonderful monthly bulletin. I would like to extend an invitation to anyone interested in joining with us to further our aims and goals in making and keeping this the American Giant Homer the top flight show bird it is as well as filling the dual role of an outstanding squab producer.

I would like to thank Mr. Hollmann for allowing us to run this Special in his ever-popular American Pigeon Journal. It is through these Specials that each one of our breeds of pigeons can be given the publicity we alone could not give them in 50 years. Thanks to all the members who took the time and sent in your wonderful and interesting articles spotlighting our American Giant Homer in this grand APJ Special.

Giant Homers Become "American" In Cleveland, Ohio

By CARL F. GRAEFTE, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Do you youngsters know that what are now known as "American Giant Homers" were originally called just "Giant Homers"? I know how the name of the breed happened to be changed, because I was there when it was first discussed.

It was at the Poultry and Pigeon Show held in Cleveland, Ohio, in August of 1939, in conjunction with the 7th World Poultry Congress. This show was in some ways the most interesting one I have attended, because of the great number of foreign (and domestic) exhibits of large poultry, bantams, and pigeons.

The outstanding foreign exhibit, in pigeons at least, was the Italian one. Of interest in addition to the Italian birds was Professor Ghigi who, with an assistant or co-worker whose name I have forgotten, attended the Congress meetings. He was at the show the afternoon that a number of American pigeon fanciers and breeders were there. Those I remember were Irvin Goss, then the leading breeder and exhibitor of Giant Homers, Frank Dallas, Kenneth Vermilya, Bert Petersen, Arthur Marria, and myself. We had a good time discussing pigeons with the Italian experts (with Frank Dallas sometimes translating), and we somehow got onto the subject of Homer varieties the world over. Dr. Ghigi had never seen or heard of "Giant Homers" before, although he was familiar with English Show Homers, and was not altogether clear about the distinctions and differences.

This suggested to Irv. Goss and me that we should try to re-christen our native production, calling them "American Giant Homers", a name they deserved since they are a strictly American production. Since Irvin (the big banana in Giant Homer affairs in those days) took it up and pushed it, the change of name was shortly made official. This was indeed a good job in my estimation, because American Giant Homers and Kings are, as far as I know, the only widely distributed breeds of American origin.

Parentetically, since Kings have, in a few short years, attained wide
(Continued on page 353.)

Ted Grulke's

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To The

Giant Homer Fanciers

R. R. Barlow Said "Spitzerinktum"

R. S. Kremer Says: Breed The

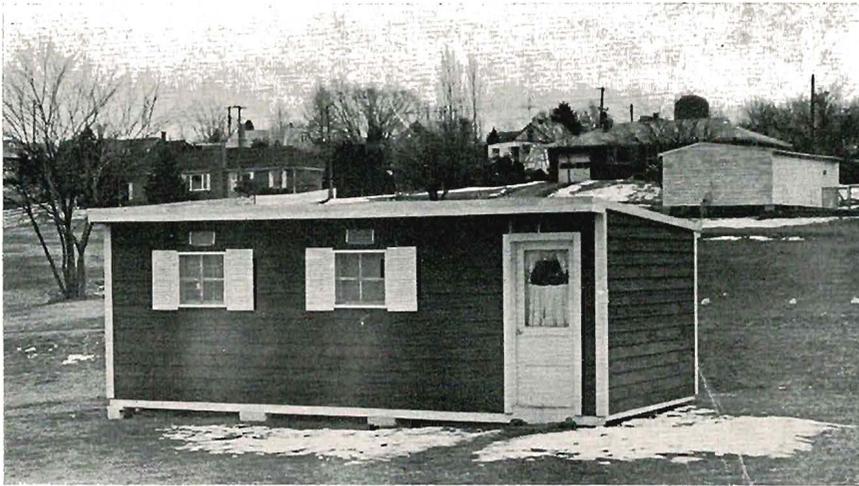
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Ralph Garber's New Pigeon Loft

Here is the new loft of Ralph Garber, size 12 by 24 feet, vented, insulated, and paneled on the inside. Mr. Garber is a breeder of American Giant Homers. — Photo from Ralph Garber, York, Pa.

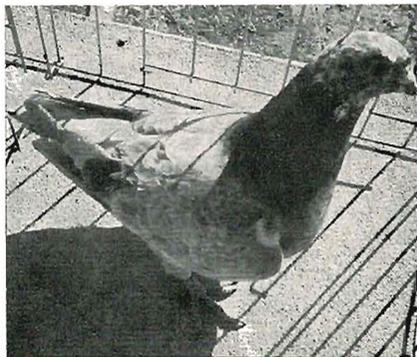
Condition a Major Factor in Show Success

By TOM BARNHART, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

I would like to mention here a few items which, although obvious to the experienced utility breeder, are well worth calling to the attention of our relative newcomers in the field. All too often a novice will be ready to give up the hobby after a disastrous showing when, with a little effort being given towards keeping his birds in condition, he could have placed considerably higher.

The official Standard for the American Giant Homer states: "Condition: ten points. Body firm and muscular, feathers short, broad, hard, tight and smooth in finish." This is fine; but when you get right down to it, the condition of a bird affects — either directly or indirectly — almost every other point in the Standard.

The wattle and the eye ceres tend to lose their color when the bird is off feed. Although not a major factor in point total (two points for wattle, two for cere), discolored and especially damaged wattle and ceres can detract



GIANT HOMER COCK

This A.O.C. Giant Homer Cock, Band No. 1984, was the Best A.O.C. Giant Homer at the 1970 St. Paul National Show. Also Best A.O.C. and B.O.S. at the Sixth District Show held at Des Moines, Iowa. — Bred and owned by Harold Goodman, Chadron, Nebr.

greatly from the overall appearance of the bird.

Fifteen points are allotted for the head. Here again condition comes in to play. A bird that otherwise would show a smooth unbroken head outline can, when in a moult, appear to have a break just above the wattle. This will in turn accentuate any roughness that may already be present in the wattle. A moulting bird may also exhibit a tendency toward flatness above the eye and thinness of face if feathers are missing.

Health Grit For the Breeder

By GERHARD HASZ, Indianapolis, Ind.

"When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; what is man that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man that thou visitest him? For thou has made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet; all sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; the fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, ..." Psalm 8.

Having been given "dominion" over the vast natural resources of this planet (vegetable and animal as well as mineral) does not imply license for wanton exploitation and utter disregard for built-in balances and divinely premeditated beauty and harmony. Man should rather think of himself as having been cast in the role of a steward of the manifold gifts of God. When man who was "made in the image of God" abdicates that role he ceases to be "a little lower than the angels"; he becomes lower than an animal.

Now let's zero in on man having

Another fifteen points go toward a "well rounded" breast. When that breast is no more than a razor-sharp keel resulting from weight loss, the fullness of the breast is sacrificed and the bird loses points accordingly. Twenty points on a "strongly-built" body can go down the drain if the bird is underweight. (Here alone are 35 points on body that are definitely and directly affected by condition.)

Listed under the heading "Disqualifications" are items such as "Having less than twelve tail feathers" (unquestionably a matter of condition), and "Birds showing sickness or poor condition." Of course, few fanciers will even consider showing a bird that is sick, but we should be paying more attention to some of the other factors of condition.

In his remarks about the 1970 AGHA National Show in St. Paul, Gerald Hobbs cites a recessive red hen that "Janssen (Judge Dawson Janssen) said—may have gone Champion if it hadn't been for traces of neck creases." In his notes on the 1969 National Show in Fort Worth, Judge Amos Hodson commented, "Many entries lost out on condition and soft feather." Later in the same article he says, "There were also birds that didn't place high but could have won their classes had they been in condition for the show." As another breeder puts it, "Green" flights don't pay off when the competition is tough."

Although the above lines were written with the Giant Homer in mind, I think they can be applied to all the utility breeds (and many of the Fancies, too). I don't care how good the bird is; if he's not "in shape" at show time it's going to cost him considerably more than the ten points specifically allotted to condition.

dominion over the fowl of the air. The "dove" that Noah released to ascertain whether the waters of the Flood had abated sufficiently to warrant disembarking from the Ark was in all probability one of the seven ancestors of all subsequent feral pigeons; it had the homing instinct; it had the built-in potential for variation attested to by the experiments of Charles Darwin. The "wild type" of any creature whose survival in a given environment is predicated on that particular genotype that is most perfectly attuned to its geographical and ecological surroundings tends to remain its phenotype. It is a valid generalization that most mutations are harmful, especially from the standpoint of survival in the wild.

Enters man in the role of domesticator, selector, "improver", and fancier. He fancies a certain aberration from wild type, segregates it, (rescues it from the leveling influences of the "wild" milieu), pampers it, and line-breeds until the "new" genotype has been established.

Having captured a mutation for posterity, man beats his chest and

announces to the world that he has "created a new breed" or a "new variety" of plant or animal, as the case may be. His pride is justified and understandable. His joy is not to be begrudged, his accomplishment not to be belittled. The satisfaction that warms the cockles of his heart at such an achievement is the just reward of one who has accepted the challenge of performing like one who has been given "dominion over the fowl of the air". He has demonstrated to all the world that he is a breeder and not a mere keeper.

Now for the payoff. This can take various forms. If the "improvement" is of a utilitarian nature, such as better squabs and more of them, the payoff may come in the form of dollars. If the "improvement" is of an aesthetic nature (refinement of type, color, ornamentation, station, etc.) recognition and acclaim will come in the showroom and the subsequent display of eagerness on the part of fellow fanciers to relieve the successful one of his surplus. Whether one's involvement with pigeon culture be chiefly in the nature of a hobby to promote relaxation and to safeguard one's sanity, or the sporting angle also enters into the picture (competing with others) the matter of sharing is always an essential ingredient. An accomplishment that isn't shared with others has no permanence, no future. The torch much be passed on to others and the greater the number of torchbearers the better the chances of nailing down a concession doggedly wrested from a recalcitrant "wild type".

These are all self-evident truths. The point that is not always clearly discerned by pigeon breeders is that a high level of excellence is neither quickly attained nor permanently retained without an ongoing and unflagging attention to detail. A keeper may, a breeder dare not abdicate his role of "having dominion" over the fowl that he has, in a sense, "created". The Master Breeder Award doesn't go to fanciers who jump from one breed to another. This stamp of approval is not accorded to the fellow whose chief asset was a pocket full of money. The essential prerequisites are patience and stick-to-itiveness, a perpetual dissatisfaction with the improvements of yesterday and a tenacious pressing forward to uncover the hidden potential of tomorrow's shuffling of ancestral genes. If excellence were easy to come by and absolute rather than relative, the pursuit of it would soon lose its zest.

Giant Homers Became "American"

(Continued from page 351.)

popularity in Germany, where there is apparently a larger density of pigeon fanciers than anywhere else, I think it would be well worthwhile to make an effort to send a few pairs of representative American Giant Homers to Germany to some dedicated fancier who would breed them and show them. Perhaps Gerhard Hasz would be the best possible man to handle something like this.

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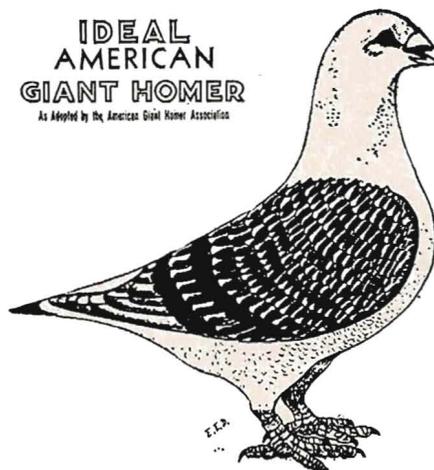
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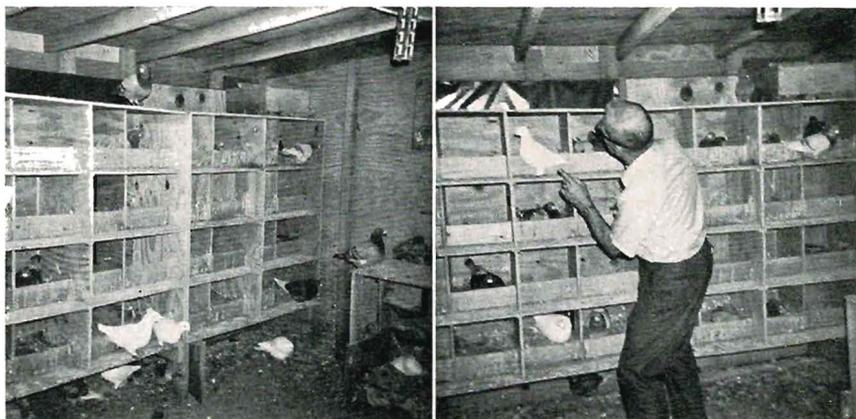
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Interior View of H. L. ("Hap") Beattie's Loft

Here are two views of the interior of Mr. Beattie's loft showing double nests with removable bottoms. Mr. Beattie is shown admiring a young 1969 White hen. — Photos from H. L. ("Hap") Beattie, Tulsa, Okla.

A Treatise on the American Giant Homer

By R. L. ("HAP") BEATTIE, Tulsa, Okla.

It is not often that one has the opportunity to write on the subject of American Giant Homers. Writing any sort of an article for a special issue of the American Pigeon Journal may be an easy task for some fanciers. For myself the task is very hard, because I know that I cannot come close in giving our organization and breed justice. After all, the American Giant Homer has been in the making for over four decades. So many outstanding individuals and events are responsible for the growth and development of the A.G.H.A. We are indebted to so many past and present members for their tireless efforts, their unselfish devotion and leadership. They have come from all walks of life, banded together in friendship to promote and sponsor a breed of pigeon they truly love.

All of us have been bitten by the Giant Homer bug or exposed to it in one manner or other. Some of us were more severely bitten, and no type of cure has ever been effective. Let us go back a few decades now and see how these "bites" have affected this individual.

In the early thirties I had a few large type squabbing Homers. The man I got them from called them Belgian Homers. They were a bit darker in color than our present Duns and had very heavy wattles and eye ceres. Through our local pigeon club I learned the name of a Giant Homer breeder in O'Bannon, Kentucky. He was Dr. R. W. Keene.

During the early Fall of 1934 I was a member of a professional football team. Dr. Keene was President of the Giant Homer Ass'n. at that time, which by the way was the only name for it for many years. We scheduled a game with the Louisville Bourbons to be played on Sunday. We arrived in Louisville on Friday evening. Early Saturday morning I rented a car and with one of my team-mates for company, drove out to O'Bannon to see Dr. Keene. I was astounded and

fascinated at the layout he had for pigeon breeding. This meeting was and has always been a very memorable occasion. In fact upon my arrival back in Louisville at the practice field to review our plays for the Sunday game I was nearly two hours late. The coach promptly fined me \$25 plus the same for the other player I had with me. This however did not dampen my spirits as Dr. Keene had selected three pairs of breeders for me, one pair being pure white, which at that time was some sort of a rarity in itself.

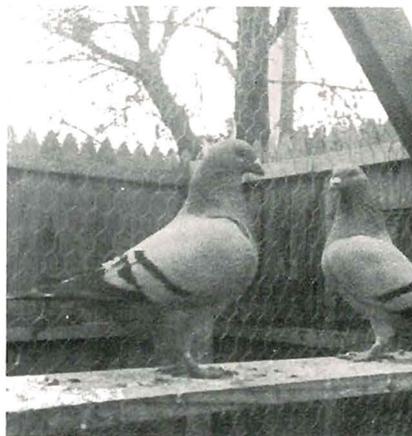
The Giant Homer Association at that time held Squab Breeding Contests amongst its own members. Great emphasis was always put on production of squabs, both by numbers produced per pair and total yearly weight. In 1933 Giant Homers won the New Jersey State Squab Breeding Contest with 30 pens competing with 10 other breeds. This was won with the highest production ever attained in any squab raising contest. The same pen finished high in 1934 also. Results for each month were always published in Frank Hollmann's American Squab Journal. Membership dues to the Giant Homer Ass'n were a whopping one dollar (\$1.00) per year. There were eight new members listed in the 1934 pamphlet showing the Giant Homer Standard. In all there were approximately 25 members including the four charter members which were Wm. P. Gray, C. F. Hober, R. W. Keene, and Norman Jones. My correspondence with most of these members concerned various ways and means of raising better squabs and greater quantity. The various buyers of squabs would quote prices on squabs weighing from 10 to 15 lbs. per dozen. Ninety per cent of the inquiries that I would receive from individuals wanting stock birds were more concerned with the number of squabs they would produce a year and whether or not they would be dark or light colored.

From the above one can readily see that even back nearly four decades ago the Giant Homer was holding its own and was destined to become one of America's most popular breeds both from a Utility and a Show standpoint. Wendell M. Levi commended the Giant Homer very highly after judging Giant Homers in Charlotte, N.C. when he made the following statement: "I am very sincere in my comment that I was very much amazed and gratified at the improvement in the general average of the Giant Homers. The Giant Homer breeders are certainly on the road to produce a Utility bird, which for general utility purposes is going to be hard to beat."

Perhaps Mr. Levi at the time he made foregone statement didn't realize how much truth his casual statement had in it. The "spark" grew into a raging fire in the next few short years. The members began to realize their preference for Giant Homers was well founded and justified. Through careful and selective breeding programs to improve the Giant Homer image, great strides began to make themselves apparent. Shorter, broader, and deeper keeled Giants in compact packages began to appear. More and more Giant Homers began to appear in pigeon shows throughout the country.

In my opinion, J. J. Keifer, a staunch friend of R. W. Keene in the early thirties and in later years the good friend of practically all Giant breeders, was the guiding force in the development of our present day American Giant Homer. He was always in demand to judge wherever Giants were shown. His masterful handling of the birds and placing them in their proper positions was uncanny. He left no stone unturned in explaining why one bird failed to compete with another. One had only to be present to understand what I mean.

From the late thirties and all through the forties the real "hot-bed" for Giants was in and around the city of Louisville, Ky. One has only to glance over the records of the National Pigeon Show Champions coming out of this region during these years.



BLUE BAR GIANT HOMERS

A 1969 Blue Bar Giant Homer cock and nest mate from the loft of R. L. ("Hap") Beattie, Tulsa, O.Kla.

My good friend Irvin T. Goss took Champion Giant in 1939, 1941, and 1948. No Nationals were held in 1943 and 1944 due to the War. It is not hard to see why Irvin was selected for a Master Breeder's Certificate. He became very interested in the development of the Auto-Sexed Giants, and was very successful in it. Also along these same lines he was instrumental in developing many of our more "exotic" colors that we have today. A better breeder of Giants would be hard to find during this period.

During the next decade the balance of power shifted to the northern region of the country. The almost unbeatable Robert Fisher from Wisconsin came into prominence winning back to back Championships in 1952, 1953, and 1955 and 1956 — twice as many champs as any other breeder in the fifties. He was presented with a Master Breeder's Certificate which was well deserved. Bob was a perfectionist at conditioning. His birds were finished specimens and ready to do the job in every respect that they were sent to the shows to do. Another of my good friends, Joe Frazier of El Monte, California, also came to the front in the fifties. He won back to back championships in 1958 and 1959 — he being the only other fancier to win more than one championship in this decade.

Time and space will not permit the mention of all the wonderful individuals that put their time and efforts into the development of this great American Giant Homer Ass'n. It is unfortunate that more of the membership down through the years did not take a more active part in showing their birds at the various local, district, and National Shows. I am sure that there are many of them who, if they had done so, would have been big winners too.

We have been very fortunate during the past four decades. Our Standard for Giants has been changed only three times. We first had the one drawn by James McNinch in 1934. Later came the one by H. M. Fowler. The present Standard, drawn by Earl Deal, should hold forth for many years to come. If the majority of our fanciers can breed Giants fairly close to the present standard we now have, we will have something we can all be proud of.

Breeding Giant Homers can be very rewarding. Various acquaintances and friendships are cultivated that are invaluable. These come through correspondence and communication with each other, meeting at the local and district shows, entering into friendly and constructive competition, all for the improvement and development of the breed.

In the mid-fifties I was fortunate to make an acquaintance, (through correspondence), with an outstanding individual. At that time I was fairly active in the Giant Homer Ass'n and consequently received and wrote many letters. This particular letter was from a true lover of Giant Homers. He had not had any birds for quite a few years and wanted to know what I had along the lines and types
(Continued on page 358.)

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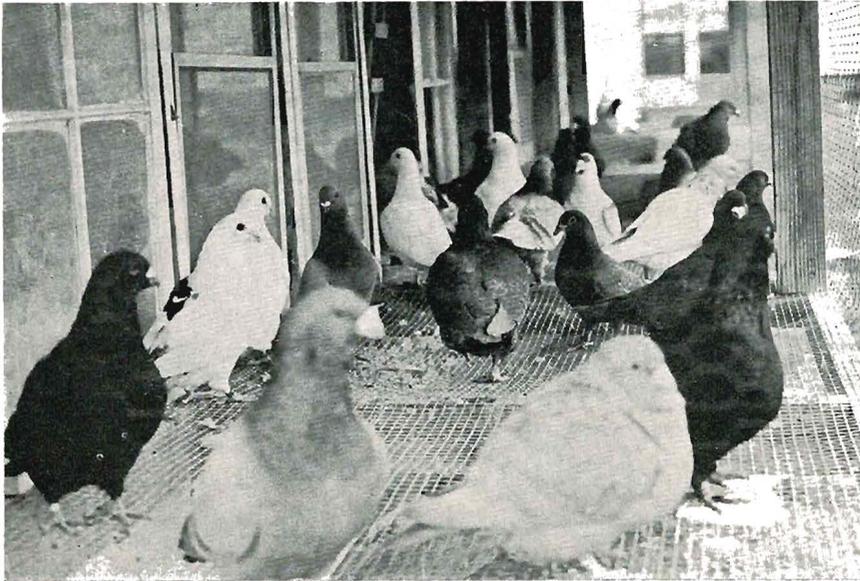
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A Pen of American Giant Homers

Over half of the birds in the fly pen are 1970 Giant Homer youngsters, owned by Ray Greene. — Photo from Ray Greene, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

A.O.C. in American Giant Homers

By RAY GREENE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

It was my pleasure to be able to attend the last two National Pigeon shows. And upon close observation I saw a lot of birds that should have been placed in the A.O.C. class. This article will make the feathers fly in a good many lofts and also bring out all kinds of worms from the wood-work.

A.O.C. is a class, and means just what it says, any other color. A bird with any variation of pigment other than the color of that class, no matter how small, disqualifies it from the class. This even includes off colored toenails. This make it eligible for the A.O.C. class. Some exhibitors try to get around this by plucking a few feathers. A good judge can see where excessive plucking has taken place.



WHITE GIANT HOMER

An outstanding White Giant Homer Cuck bred by Amos E. Hodson of Los Alamitos, Calif. and now owned by Grant Besser, Sr. of Fort Madison, Iowa. — Photo from Ray Greene, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Other breeders will leave doubtful birds at home.

White flight feathers in any color can not be plucked, as the judge will be looking for flight feathers that are not moulted in. He will see when one flight feather is missing. I might mention that this has happened to me and I was a little bit perturbed, but

An Appraisal of Today's American Giant Homer

By E. M. BLAINE, Dallas Center, Iowa

Has the "end point" in show quality of the American Giant Homer been reached? Is it time to recommend changes in the Standard, set new breeding-exhibition goals? Judging by what I have read lately, this idea is not entirely absent in the minds of some fanciers. Frankly, I have been giving the idea some thought too.

Considering the equating of today's show specimens with the present Standard, just how good are these Giant Homers? I know of no better way to attempt to answer this rather complex question than by taking a look at the twice-winning Annual Champion, Cock No. 4904, a Giant Homer I know well. This particular member of the breed was judged as Champion by two different judges (Hodson and Janssen) whose capabilities command my respect. The merits of such award automatically measure the worth of the bird obviously.

Granted, it is an undisputed honor for any bird to win two successive annual events; one should remember, though, that all entries are judged by comparison, and whenever an appraisal of any bird is based on this method alone, it is possible to fall

it took just one lesson from a good judge to make me see what I had done was wrong.

Now getting into solids, such as Blacks and Duns showing strong evidence of bar. In this area however, one can get into trouble because of the variation in the inability of solid to completely mask or cover bar. For example, one man will avow that he sees the presence while the next man will see the same bird as not serious enough to merit a change in classification.

I am of the opinion any good breeder will apply skill and artistry to the hobby and will not resort to plucking. Instead he will breed away from the undesired characteristic. To achieve this, one must mate the A.O.C. back to a bird that is basically pure for the color you are after. For an example, a black bird with the presence of white feathers should be mated to a bird pure for black. The greater percentage of the offspring will come all black with no evidence of white. This is one way to use your A.O.C. bird that has such good qualities, that you think you can not dispose of it. I think anyone raising bars or check of any color would be making a great mistake by introducing white. They know the offspring will come A.O.C. Some call this the garbage can class, because it doesn't take any skill to raise an A.O.C. bird.

Color is only one facet of breeding. The challenge of raising a good bird is the greatest satisfaction of the hobby.

In conclusion, I would like to add this little bit. In the American Giant Homer Association we are fortunate enough to have three very fine judges: Dawson Janssen, Amos Hodson, and Joe Frazier, not forgetting one member E. M. Blaine that would certainly be equal to Dawson Janssen.

short of the desired evaluation. This is to say that regardless of structural deficiencies, champions are selected at the shows. But unless these champions are compared to the Ideal, the bird's actual worth can be unknown. Old Cock No. 4904 may be constructed as the Ideal Giant Homer, provided one is willing to overlook minor faults. As a young bird, for instance, this Cock would have made a dandy Hen. What I'm saying is that proportionately he needs a larger head. And being old, his wattle, of course, is coarse. Rough feathers in the neck region also prevent this particular bird from becoming the Ideal subject.

Show me the man who claims to know of an Ideal Giant Homer (to say nothing of a dozen or more) and I will show you a man whose critical observations need finer tuning!

Turning for the moment from No. 4904, I will say in general that I have seem precious little progress in our breed over the past ten years. Head conformation is better, yes. And body size is improved. But where are the so-called double-breasted birds, those possessing the full, compact, firm bodies? Point out to me also many

specimens that can boast of proper length, width and texture of feather. Are wedged bodies out of date? In time past, Goss had them. I had them. And Frazier had some. Yes, some birds have some of these characteristics today. But has anyone really seen the Standard requirements lumped into one Giant Homer? I haven't.

Structural inadequacies need improving if we are going to boast of breeding a Standard bird. But there is more. Both color and pattern need attention. How many Carneau-red and Swing Pouter-blacks are around today? And I mention but two colors. And who cares enough about the excellence of checkering and barring in the breed to let it reflect in the breeding program? Some of us did 20 years ago. Must we regress in order to progress? The list of improvements is nearly endless.

The existence of rare genes (colors and modifiers) in the Giant Homer is another depressed area standing ready for the fearless to tackle. Hollander once said that the AGHA was the only pigeon club of its kind which dared to learn and practice genetics. Can the same be said of the club today? Are the guts to grapple with genetics confined to such members as Leonard Schwaderer and Tom Frye? Many color frontiers are still there to conquer. Learn about some of them and know what it is to feel the creative spirit. Remember how beautiful the Champion Spread reduced was? And the "Andalusian Blue?"

There will be readers I suppose who, having gotten this far in my appraisal of the American Giant Homer, will quickly contend that I have been unduly harsh in my comments, especially in dealing with the Champion No. 4904. If so, then I would defend my position by saying that I am merely exercising those standards of evaluation I've used in my loft for better than 33 years. I would remind such persons too that it was I who bred, raised, mated and sold the parents of the twice-winning Giant Homer No. 4904. Being especially critical of your own breeding prowess is the best compliment you can pay yourself. Change the present Standard? Let's change our attitudes instead and help make the American Giant Homer the bird it was meant to be in the showroom.

Squab Production Phase in G. Homers (Continued from page 345.)

worth noting, will produce desirable skin color, but it has been my experience that they are a bit weaker when subjected to fast, long intensive breeding. But here again, health is the most important asset for squab production.

A.O.C. Inflation in Am. Giant Homers (Continued from page 347.)

pretty complex.
Well, that's modern life. To keep up with technology, you can't avoid technical lingo. It can be a real education, if the fancier is interested in more than just trophies and ribbons, but don't kid yourself, getting out of A.O.C. isn't the answer. Perhaps it is time to go back to squabbing?

D—T

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Two Good Pairs of American Giant Homers

First picture shows a very good pair of Giant Homers on the nest, an Ash Red Cockerel and a Blue Bar Hen. Second picture shows a good pair of Blue Bar Giant Homers. — Both pairs bred and owned by Ray Greene, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The Giant Homer a Fast Squab Producer

By WENDELL M. LEVI, Sumter, S.C.

The Giant Homer Association was organized in 1928. In 1929, at the Sumter National Show, the breed was admitted as a standard bird. The first annual meet of the Association was held at the Belleville, Illinois, 1930 National. In 1931, I judged Giant Homers at the Asheville, N.C., Fall Show, birds from the lofts of the leading breeders in the country being represented. Bodies and size at that time were in some cases very good but in most instances the long head and frontal of the Show Homer had not been eliminated. At the Charlotte National (1933) a great improvement in every way was noted. During this time no standard had been provided and the Racing Homer standard was applied, but on an enlarged scale.

Some of the breeders instrumental in the creation of this breed are Gray, Kain, and Van Buren, originally, and subsequently such breeders as R. W.

Keene (Ky.), H. M. Fowler (Ky.), Irvin T. Goss (Ky.), J. G. Epping (Ky.), Harry Odom (Ill.) and others.

The State of Kentucky was for a number of years the leading center of Giant Homer culture. The present day Giant Homer is an active, hardy bird, with a fine sized body and with short, close and hard feathering. It has been especially well developed as a show bird in silvers and blues. Reds, yellows, and whites still have room for progress. From a commercial standpoint, it is a fast producer of squabs of an attractive appearance when dressed.

I noted at the Indianapolis National (January, 1954) that there were still some birds entered whose head lines I thought were still not all that could be desired. I remember wondering why some of the breeders did not make an out-cross upon a large Show Pen Racer. At the Palmetto Pigeon Plant, we had certain Show Pen Racer cocks with beautiful headlines that I thought in time would help eliminate some of the difficulties: this out-cross would be rather simple for many of the show qualities of the Giant Homer are the same as that of the Show

Racer.

The great exception is the compact, shorter and broader body of the present day Giant Homer. I am glad to see that in the past few years some of the more progressive breeders of Giant Homers have made this out-cross with remarkable results.

I was particularly pleased at the Association's providing classes at Indianapolis for rare color. This is the first time to my knowledge and in my lifetime that this has been done with any breed. There were some beauties there. However the breeder runs into genetic difficulties with these rare colors. The beautiful Andalusian Blue is unpure (heterozygous). When two Andalusian Blues are mated, one unfortunately does not get all Andalusian Blues, but will get some black, some Andalusian Blues (heterozygous), and some birds which are pure (homozygous). This homozygous pure form is a lovely light pearl grayish. The best mating for an Andalusian Blue is to a solid (S) black.

The Association has a grand group of pigeon breeders in its membership. The breed has stood the test of time and a bright future can be looked forward to by all breeders of this very vigorous and prolific breed.

Treatise on the American Giant Homer

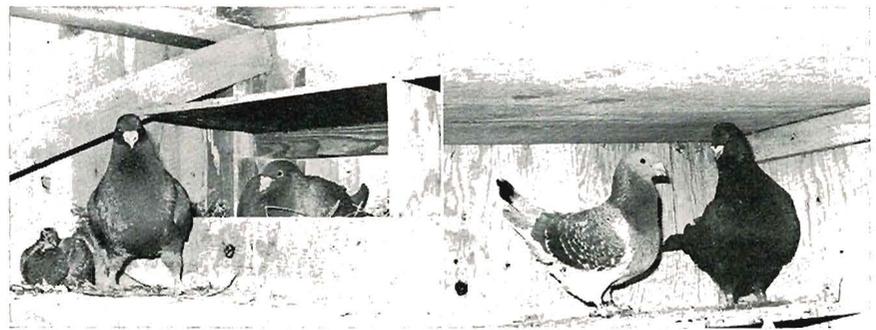
(Continued from page 355.)

that he desired. As always I replied as promptly as possible and tried to describe in a small way what some of my birds were like. I may have even sent him a few photos of some of my birds as well as I can recall. I tried to be fair as to price quoted and honest in my description. This man took me for my written word and sent me a check for six pair, or enough odd cocks and hens to make up six pair. He later wanted a few more which I also shipped. Not long after this I became inactive as a member of the A.G.H.A. but kept on breeding Giants for pleasure the same as always. This most remarkable individual bowed his neck and took off for Giant Homer Heaven. He added other strains to his loft — the wonderful Ed. Blaine stock and the best of Paul R. Meissner, as well as birds from Fred Langridge and others. In 1960, just a few short years later he had the Champion Giant Homer at the National in Atlantic City, N.J. This is not to mention the many district



RALPH GARBER, York, Pa.

Ralph Garber of York, Pa. holding a White Giant Homer Hen.



Good Producing American Giant Homers

Here are two good squab producing pairs of American Giant Homers. First picture shows a pair of Recessive Reds with youngster. Second picture shows another good pair, a black cock and a dun hen, a very good stock pair. — Bred and owned by Ray Greene, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

shows that he won in and high placings in other Nationals. By now most of our members reading this will know he is none other than Walter Teskey of Blue Earth, Minnesota. Due to an allergy condition he is no longer able to breed Giant Homers, but he maintains his membership in order to keep up with all the latest happenings in our organization. For over fifteen years Walter and I have corresponded and exchanged ideas.

In late 1968 I received an A.G.H.A. membership card from our Secretary and Treasurer Walter Klann. In his short letter he explained that Walter Teskey had sent him the money for my new membership. For some reason Walter wanted me to be a member again. Soon afterward a letter arrived from Walter telling me that he was reserving six pair of his better birds for me since he was going to have to give them up on account of the allergy condition. He instilled a new life in this old carcass and can never be thanked enough. The birds were beautiful as they consisted of stock from Tom Frye, Paul Meissner, Ed. Blaine, and Paul Kretschmar. To me, this is what our organization is all about — breeding Giant Homers in conjunction with each other for friendship and good fellowship, both on a district and national level. This is what has put our Giant Homer where it is today. It will have a direct effect upon what our image as an organization is in the future. We as A.G.H.A. members can go as far and as high as we wish, but we must keep cultivating our friendship and respect for each other as we go forward.

Due to my inactivity in the A.G.H.A. during the late fifties and through the sixties, it is hoped that some one more qualified than myself, will write about these years and their experiences.

Our organization has been blessed with so many outstanding officers and directors down through the years. It would be very hard to mention one without slighting many others, as I mentioned in the beginning — the tireless, unselfish, and unappreciated Publicity Directors, going out of their way to keep the ball rolling, our many great Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers. Where could we as a club have ever found another Bob Kremer to edit our last and most outstanding Yearbook? On top of this he comes right back and agrees to accept the responsibility for our APJ Special. We should all take our hats off to him again.

For myself, I can only say that I deeply cherish all the wonderful friendships raising Giant Homers has afforded me — true friends that stayed with me through thick and thin.

As we go into the seventies I only hope that all of us through our Giant Homers can cultivate many new friendships and enjoy them to the fullest extent along with the old. If raising Giant Homers cannot do this for all of us, we should pursue some other endeavor.

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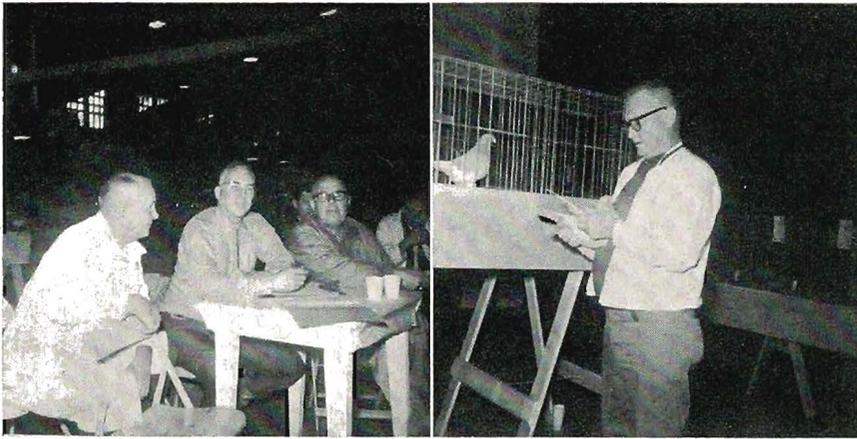
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Judging American Giant Homers at Salem, Ore.

First picture shows a group of four breeders watching Ted Klein judge the Giant Homers at the Eighth District Show held October 1969 at Salem, Oregon. Left to right: Dick Wagner, Tom Frye, Denby Williamson and Paul Kretschmar. Second picture shows Ted Klein judging the Giant Homers. — Photos from Dick Johnson, Hill City, S. Dak.

Giant Homers — The Tame Breed

By DICK JOHNSON, Hill City, S.D.

Although I have raised pigeons since I was twelve years old, I never had the American Giant Homer until about ten years ago when I introduced them into my loft. My taking up with Giant Homers happened quite by accident but it sure was a lucky day for me when it happened, for this great American breed beats anything I have ever raised.

My son and I were attending a pigeon club meeting and he won a pair of Giant Homers that were donated for a door prize. It turned out that we had two cocks instead of a pair and we had to scout around for two hens. We finally located a couple of nice hens and we were in business. The two pairs turned out to be terrific breeders, but I do not like to kill squabs and as there were youngsters all over the place, I sold out all the birds to a fellow who was interested in squab production.

After I sold the birds I was working out of town for a spell and visited with one of the leading Giant Homer fanciers during the evening hours. It wasn't long before I was back in business again with the beautiful Giant Homer, although this time I started with some good show birds. Today I have a loft full of color, ash reds in checks; blue bars in fades; reduced yellow bars and my beautiful almonds. I wonder what color I will have next!

As I am away from home quite a bit I enjoy getting back in my loft with the birds at the first opportunity. The birds all know me and appear to greet me in their tame, affectionate way. I like to pick up the birds and handle them and go over their good points, and they seem to enjoy the handling also. For beauty and tameness I heartily recommend our American Giant Homer.

Breeding White Giant Homers

By JAMES MCKENZIE, Norman, Okla.

Levi describes the color White in pigeons as the complete absence of color pigment in the feathers. The white appearance is caused by the refraction and reflection of light on the feather structure. Genetically, white has been found to be dominant to blue in some cases, and recessive to blue in others. A bull eye, white beak and white toenails are the natural accessories to solid white plumage. Orange-eyed self whites have been produced in various breeds, but these do not always breed true, and will occasionally produce birds with odd-colored feathers. White appears in numerous pattern variations which breed true, such as Grizzle and Gazzi, and in patchwork mixtures called "piebald", "pied", or "splashed".

White Giant Homers are of the bull-eyed, natural variety which breed

true to color. The Standard states that "white eye ceres are preferred". This is somewhat of an arbitrary selection made by the membership to state a preference for white eye cere over red, and not all of the members are in agreement with this. The cause of this difference is probably the basic feather color which is being masked by the white. Most Ash-reds have a red eye cere, and most blues have a white eye cere, so this could account for the difference.

White Giant Homers have traditionally been one of the weaker color classes at most District and National meets over the past 15 years. Evidence of this fact is the low number of whites that have been placed Champion at District and annual meets, and the small size of the white color classes. The reasons for this

apparent weakness in whites have been partly due to difficulty in breeding good whites. Some of our top breeders have kept whites over the years, and a few Champion Giant Homers have been bred in whites, but by and large it has been hard for anyone to sustain a winning stud in whites. The easiest way to improve a stud of whites is to buy better ones, if you can find them for sale or loan. If not, outcrosses to outstanding blues, ash-reds, or solids will produce some birds with white flights, splash-es, etc., and these can be bred back to whites and a few self-whites will result for lucky breeders.

White Giant Homers have been gaining in popularity in the last few years, and some large classes of quality birds are expected this season in the West and Midwest. A lot of breeders still say "I just don't like Whites", with no further explanation. However, Whites have advantages over other colors, especially for squab production, and will probably become one of the most competitive colors in Giant Homers.

A Dedicated Man Laid To Rest — Melvin Martin

By ERWIN LERCHE, Fond du Lac, Wis.

It is with deep sorrow to announce the passing of Melvin Martin of Ripon, Wisconsin, on Tuesday, March 24, 1970. Mr. Martin was only 49 years of age at the time of his death which was caused by pneumonia. Mel, as every one called him, was Vice President of the Central Komorner Tumbler Club. Mr. Martin was also a devoted and dedicated member of the Fond du Lac All-Variety Pigeon Club having recently completed a three year term as a director.

His love for pigeons never seemed to cease. For many years he bred and exhibited Chinese and African Owls along with Fantails. In the last few years his favorite breeds were Helms and Komorner Tumblers. To understand his loyal dedication one must



DICK JOHNSON, Hill City, S.D.

Dick Johnson holding his big Red Check American Giant Homer. — Photo from Dick Johnson, Hill City, S. Dak.

look back to the year of 1953 when misfortune entered his life. At about that time an accident from a serious fall contributed to the loss of his eyesight. However, he was not to be denied his enthusiasm for enjoying his wonderful hobby of pigeons and also breeding and exhibiting Bantams. Although the odds were greatly against him in pigeon exhibitions, he never seemed to let this bother him, always winning his share of ribbons, which elated his ambitions.

Although pigeons were his love and his life, his greater accomplishments were made in a period of 40 years of sincere loyalty and dedication to the Wisconsin 4-H movement. Here are some of the major milestones in his association with the 4-H program. In 1930 at the age of nine he became a member. 1937, State outstanding boy Junior 4-H Leader, receiving gold watch award from the Wisconsin Agricultural Extension Division. 1939, attended the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago. 1940, elected State 4-H Club President, and attended the National 4-H Club Congress in Washington, D.C. 1953, organized the Ripon Silver Creek 4-H Club. 1960, honored as the most outstanding Fond du Lac County 4-H Alumnus. 1962, received the Bronze Plaque for recognition as the outstanding 4-H Alumnus in the state of Wisconsin. 1965, Group Leader for the Flying Feathers 4-H Pigeon Club. In 1970 he was starting his 19th year as adult group leader. In his 4-H group he was the woodworking leader, and also Chairman of the Handicraft Committee of the Fond du Lac County 4-H Clubs.

Forty years of sincere loyalty and devoted dedication has left a great impression on many youth not only in Fond du Lac County but also throughout the entire State of Wisconsin. Symbolic of his nature he more than proved that a physical handicap can be man's greatest asset if need to be. Courage and determination were his greatest virtues in attaining his achievements in life, and if the youth who were affiliated with him through the 4-H movement would accept his characteristic values for future use, then I am certain, that all of them will become better citizens in their community.

A man's tradition has ended, and for those that served under him new ones will begin. The Fond du Lac All-Variety Pigeon Club will greatly miss him at all meetings and club activities. We extend our deepest and most sincere sympathy to his wife Mildred and son Butch, and also to the remaining members of his immediate family.

Pigeon Raising As A Hobby For Profit
(Continued from page 394.)

They ought to make a pretty good mating.

Do you know I had relaxed and I didn't feel nearly as tired as I had a half hour before. Are pigeons profitable? They help tensions, (no ulcers), relax tired muscles, help make new friends, and provide hours of enjoyment from just watching them. They seem to put me at peace with everything and everyone. How much more profit could I want?

**GIANT
GERALD
HOMERS
HOBBS**

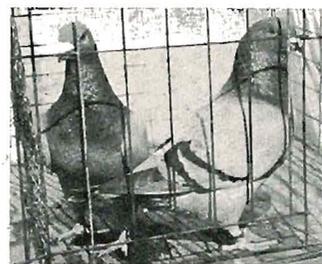
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A Group of Pigeon Fanciers

Left to right: Carol and Fred Schwaderer of Gordon, Nebr., John Severson of Rapid City, S. Dak., Dick Johnson of Hill City, S. Dak., and Bill Danley of Rapid City, S. Dak. — Photo from Dick Johnson, Hill City, S. Dak.

Basic Power Areas of the Giant Homers

By NORBERT A. WOZNAK, Bay City, Mich.

I would like to take this opportunity to express to you my views regarding the American Giant Homer Standard Pigeon. I don't believe that our differences will be too great simply because our goal is the same. However, our methods of reaching this goal may vary slightly.

The most important factor in breeding American Giant Homers is that the fancier visualize his goal, namely, the picture of the Ideal Giant Homer as set forth in the A.G.H.A. Standard. Acquaint yourself with the Standard to the highest possible degree. Adjust your mind to the type of pigeon you are going to breed, then implement a system for reaching this goal. Refer to the Standard often, until you are absolutely sure and have implanted into your mind a picture of the Ideal Giant Homer.

Let us now assume, that we have

a need for a pair of Giant Homers. It is not important, whether they be an addition to our loft, or to improve in a certain area, or a new fancier just starting out in the breed. I have applied a system, whereby, I break down the Standard into what I consider the five most basic Power Areas: Head, Beak, Neck, Body and Feather, and Legs. There are other Power Areas equally important, but, handling of the bird is necessary in determining most of these. Regardless of your situation, whether it be buying or breeding, apply the power system herein and you will readily see the improvement in the quality of your birds will be visibly clear.

In applying the Power System, review the Power Areas as follows: Beak — is the beak structure of the quality desired or is the beak too long or too thin? We are looking for a good heavy beak, of medium length, showing a lot of Power.

Head — is the head too small, too narrow, too long or is it flat at the top? We are looking for a good

powerful head, having good thickness at the skull and nice rounded curvature at the top.

Neck — is the neck too long or too thin? We are looking for a good sized neck possessing plenty of Power and of medium length.

Body and Feather — is the body too long, too narrow, feathers too loose or tail too wide or too long? We are looking for a short compact body with nice tight feather. We want a powerful set of shoulders tapering down through the rump, giving us a nice wedged shape. The broader and shorter the bird, the better the wedge. We are looking for a short whipped tail.

Legs — are the legs too long or too thin, set too close? We are looking for a good powerful set of legs of medium length. Many fanciers have the tendency to overlook the importance of the leg structure. Imagine, a Giant Homer, possessing most of the qualities of the breed, standing on a couple of toothpicks. It is very important, therefore, that the bird possess a leg structure strong enough to conform with the aforementioned Power Areas. Keep in mind, a powerful leg structure, set well apart, adds not only to the appearance of the bird, but to its balance as well.

In conclusion, try applying this power system into your breeding habits. Do not underestimate the importance of the powerful beak and leg structure. Be constantly on the alert, that you don't find yourself focusing too much attention in a certain area and sacrificing in another. Keep in mind, that all Power Areas are equally important and try applying these in your discussions with the fanciers at the shows. Give special attention to the older and more experienced fancier, the knowledge that he has accumulated over the years, is a priceless possession, and should he choose to share his experiences with you, absorb as much of this knowledge as your capacity will allow, for one day you will have to fill his shoes. Yes! Someday, you will be looked upon as the older and more experienced fancier, prepare yourself accordingly.

Should you be one who has reached the crossroad in the Fancy and are undecided as to which road to go, Go Giant, you'll be glad you did.

Are Some Breeds Becoming Very Rare?

By PAUL STEIDEN, Sec. UPF, Louisville, Ky.

I wonder if the Pigeon Fancy is letting some breeds of pigeons become very, very rare, to the point that perhaps in 10 years some of these breeds may disappear completely from the scene. If this is so, and we believe that it is, then now is the time to start thinking about what we, as pigeon fanciers, could or would want to do about this serious situation. Some of these rare breeds you see occasionally at shows or fairs. Sometimes the exhibitor is making a courageous effort to preserve and improve the breed; other times it is just a new breed he has picked up to

look at for a while and then discard. They often don't know how rare or valuable this stock is. Many of the rare breeds were kept and popularized by oldtime fanciers who have since passed on. There are no new fanciers interested in the breed and it slowly slips into the rare classification.

What to do about it? By this article we thought some interest could be stirred up and a plan of action be drafted to bring about an improvement of this rare breed situation by dedicated fanciers.

One of the first steps needed to



NORBERT A. WOZNAK, Bay City, Mich.

Norbert A. Wozniak with his display of Giant Homer awards, as he examines the power areas of a Giant Homer Young Cock, Band No. 549, with his three sons, Leon, Jeff and Daniel looking on. — Photo from Norbert A. Wozniak, Bay City, Mich.

be taken, we think, is to draw up a list of rare breeds that may be in danger of becoming extinct. We propose that such a list be assembled, to be called "The Critical List", to clear up just what breeds are considered very rare. Some ground rules should be used to determine just what is a rare breed. One probable rule would be that a breed that has a specialty club supporting it, at least in the U.S., could not be considered rare at all. Possibly another would be if a certain number of dedicated fanciers could be found who are trying to perpetuate a certain breed, it would be excluded from the "critical list".

There are breeds that seem to remain in a moderate degree of popularity in spite of no sponsoring specialty club. Examples of these are Mookees, Exhibition Homers, Indian Mondains. Still, these are somewhat rare. Then there are the breeds that almost surely belong on the "critical list", such as Goldkragens, Priests, Dutchesses and Genuine Homers. Most any fancier can look down the list of breeds on a band order blank and note several breeds he has never seen, no matter how many shows or lofts he has visited. We certainly don't want these breeds to become extinct.

Thus the "Critical List" of rare breeds needs to be assembled. The U.P.F. bulletin would be an ideal place to assemble such a list. We urge fanciers to send in their proposed list of rare breeds. The immediate need is to assemble such a list. Then plans can be formulated to find new fanciers that will be needed to help perpetuate some of the fine breeds of pigeons.

Giant Homers and Sex-Linkage

By CARL F. GRAEFE, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

American Giant Homers, because of the many sex linked colors common in the breed, offer a greater range of possibilities for "sex linked" matings than any other breed that I know of.

First of all, what is a "sex linked mating?" It differs from a so-called "auto-sexed mating" (more properly called a sex dichromatic mating) in that it does not breed true in later generations but does make it possible to sex all offsprings by feather color. All sex-linked matings give "criss-cross" results. That is, from any mating of a sex-linked recessive cock with any sex-linked dominant hen, the sons will be no lower in sex-linked color than their dam, the daughters no higher than their sire.

Sex-linked colors available in American Giant Homers are: ash red, blue, black and brown; almond, faded and normal; reduced and normal, in both intense and dilute phases, which are also sex-linked.

Whether the colors are pied or not, whether or not modified by autosomal color factors, whether "spread" or not, whether barred or other pattern, does not matter, they are still usable in sex-linked matings.

Turn surplus birds into cash by advertising in the APJ. A 2-inch ad costing \$6 should do the trick. Give it a trial. It pays.

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Correspondence

On
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Auto-Sexing, Rare Colors,
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American Giant Homers

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Giant Homers

Bars, Checks
Almond, Grizzle, Opal, Reduced

Harold Goodman

Route 1, Box 122,
Chadron, Nebr., 69337



An Attractive Giant Homer Loft

This attractive loft was built in 1955 and houses the American Giant Homers of Walter Teskey, who has been an outstanding breeder of Giant Homers many years. — Photo from Walter Teskey, Blue Earth, Minn.

My Experience Raising Giant Homers

By WALTER TESKEY, Blue Earth, Minn.

In April 1917 Blue Earth, Minn., had a Red Cross Auction to help Red Cross in their war efforts. All residents were asked to donate anything. One man had a large loft of squab producing Homers. He donated 8 squabs. I, age 13, persuaded my father to let me buy these beautiful feathered birds as pets. My bid of \$3.25 was successful and thus was the start of a wonderful hobby for me. I nursed these squabs to maturity and found I had 5 hens and 3 cocks. The three mated pairs were very productive but the other two hens (laying four eggs) were not so successful. My lean-to loft was very primitive but I learned

fast. I added more birds and a larger loft, second story of barn-garage. I shipped pairs of squabs on ice to Chicago and was happy when I received a dollar a pound for a few of the larger squabs. I soon found that the market wanted pound squabs. Most of mine only weighed 9-10 lbs. to the dozen. I wished I could get larger Homers. I tried a few Carneaux and white Swiss Mondaines but they were too slow. I tried crossing my Homers with Carneaux but with little more success. I sent to Elmer Rice for his largest Homers. They weren't too bad, good breeders, but still not big enough and their cost was too rich for my blood. I graduated from high school so had to sell my "pets," butchered them all.

I received my degree from University of Minnesota School of Business in 1927, majoring in Finance and Accounting. I was offered a job in local bank, just what I wanted, but wages were only \$65 per month. My father wouldn't let me accept that. He finally persuaded me to let him set me up on one of his farms. He had been a farmer all his life. I had had no farm experience but he promised to help me.

My wife and I were married in 1928 and moved on the farm, no electricity or running water, 3 plug horses, single row cultivator, sulky plow, husk corn by hand. I had never milked a cow in my life, but I milked 15 cows twice a day by hand and sold butter fat to the creamery. Boy, what an education I got. Then in 1929 the "bubble" burst and did we ever have some trying times (depression). Thanks to my parents, we survived.

When we moved to the farm I checked APJ for ads of larger Homers. I located some from a breeder in Illinois, name I have forgotten. They were larger birds than any I had ever

raised but still not Giant Homers. I again was happy with my hobby and shipped many pails of squabs to Chicago.

In 1933 I bought out a Wisconsin breeder who advertised his Rice Strain of White Kings that raised pound squabs. They were terrific producers but still too small. My Homers still outdid them. I loved them all. These Kings were a far cry from the Kings of today.

In 1934 I bought out a retail dairy, we produced and retailed our milk, 6¢ a quart. I made money for those depression years. I moved to town for my work and kept birds on the farm until 1940 when I had to sell out all birds. I couldn't keep birds in town due to city ordinance. I was without birds for 15 years. I kept having an interest in pigeons. I took American Squab Journal from 1919 (later American Pigeon Journal) to present day. I really enjoy it.

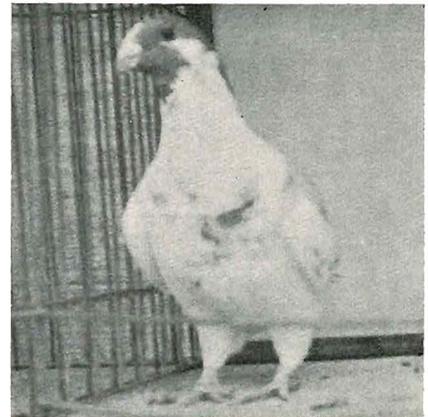
In 1955 I persuaded a friend of mine, who owned an acreage on edge of town, to let me build a loft on his land. This got me in business again. I built a fine new loft. I still wanted to get some large Homers — Giant Homers were available now. "Hap" Beattie of Tulsa, Okla. sent me some fine birds for a start. I will always be grateful to him for his many letters and words of advice as well as the fine birds. That fall I showed some birds at New Ulm, first show in my life. I won Champion Bird, Champion Young Bird and Best Display, 3 trophies, was I ever floating on thin air. Champion Bird was a fine hen from Beattie. Judge Keifer said she was truly a fine Giant Homer even though fairly old. Several others also helped me with birds for a start, Wm. Weber, Tubby Wenck and Robert Fisher. As the years passed, the trophies came much slower (beginner's luck). Others helping me were Ed Blaine, Gerald Hobbs, Paul Kretschman, Fred Langridge and Darvin Jenner. I raised lots of birds and showed at many shows; sold some birds and gave lots of them away. I was not in the business to make money.

In 1949, my flourishing dairy was sold. I didn't set price high enough. I bought a neighborhood grocery store



CHAMPION GIANT HOMER

This 1956 American Giant Homer, Band No. GH-1111 now 14 years of age, was the Champion Giant Homer at the 1959 Milwaukee National Show. — Bred and owned by Joe Frazier, El Monte, Calif.



PRIZE WINNING GIANT HOMER

This 1965 Giant Homer, Band No. GH-448, was the Best A.O.C. at the 1966 Costa Mesa National and the 1969 Fort Worth National. — Bred and owned by Joe Frazier, El Monte, Calif.

and my wife enjoyed running this. We sent three boys through college. Last May I closed up store, sold building and retired on Social Security. My health had not been too good. I found by accident I was allergic to feathers. I sold my loft and fine birds to Maurice Durkee of Winnebago, Minn. Now after a year away from birds, I am a new man. I still love pigeons, hope to keep my pigeon friends. I have many fond memories. I believe my greatest thrill after getting the three trophies from New Ulm, was to win Grand Champion at Atlantic City National on a young blue bar cock, (No. 3030). This same bird was Champion Giant Homer at Rapid City, So. Dak., both young and old, Champion of Utility breeds and Champion of all breeds. I have showed at many shows, New Ulm, Minn., Des Moines, Iowa, Watertown, Wis., Dallas, Texas, Louisville, Kentucky and other shows in Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana and Rapid City, So. Dak. I certainly love Giant Homers. They can't be beaten for production as well as beauty. All the colors are fantastic. Those beautiful wedge shaped large bodies are tops in my book. I will never forget all the wonderful experiences I had raising pigeons for a hobby. Getting rid of them really hurt me but my health comes first. Keep up all the fine work, all of you breeders.

It's June and Giant Homers Are Bursting Out All Over

By W. F. HOLLANDER, Ames, Iowa

This is the month of growing things. Instead of talking about the "good old G.H." we are asking "How them young Giants comin' along?" and saying "Oh boy, another winner in the nest!"

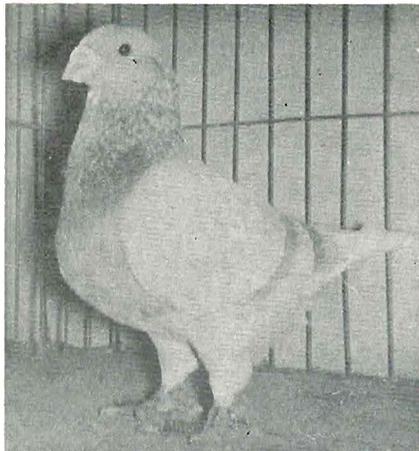
But it is instructive to think a bit about the history of our breed. We call it all-American; how many other breeds can make that claim? The originators of our breed didn't plan what we have today, as in the case of the Kings, various crosses were being made in hope of getting bigger and better squab production for market. How would they know then that their phenomenal yields would eventually be forgotten, and that those powerful workhorses would be groomed for a life of show biz? Not the showcase of a meat market any more.

Yes, there are still some at work, and a few breeders still talk of our "dual-purpose breed," but they don't talk very loud. It's hard enough to satisfy one purpose, and it takes concentration to be a fashion plate. No, that doesn't refer to a menu but to a paragon of pulchritude.

Can we look beyond June with confidence? Who can read the future? Probably we will be deluged with orders for birds and be unable to satisfy the demand for a while. But then it may happen that the wandering fancy may latch onto some breed which can zoom up and crowd our limelight. And someday when food production is again an honorable enterprise the G. H. may be tossed into the crucible of crossing from whence comes a wealth of wonders, as did the Giant Homer itself.

Advertise regularly in the APJ.

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Giant Homers

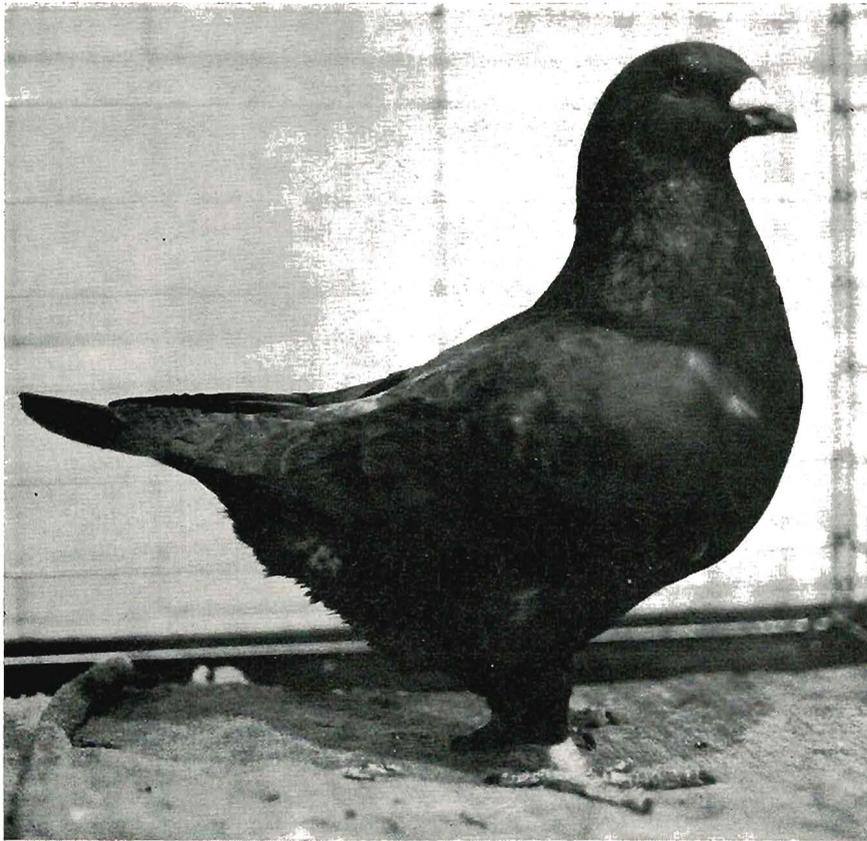
And

Giant Crests

J. N. Severson

706 Pluma Drive,

Rapid City, S.D., 57701



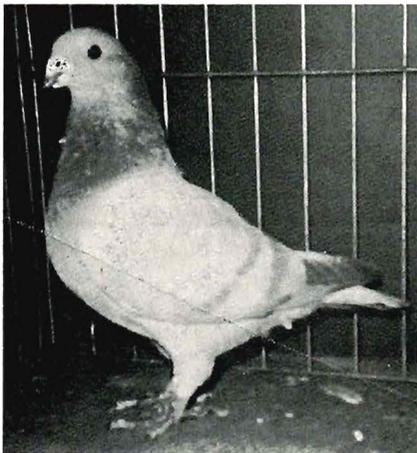
Champion American Giant Homer

This Black American Giant Homer Old Cock, Band No. 3728 was the Champion Giant Homer at the Ohio Show Classic held January 9-11 at Worthington, Ohio. Owned by H. T. Powell, Garland, Texas. — Photo from Paul Steiden, Louisville, Ky.

Breeding Giant Homers For Color

By JOHNNY SEVERSON, Rapid City, S. Dak.

Have you looked over the Giant Homers in our shows lately? If not you are in for a surprise. It seems like such a short time ago these birds looked like nothing more than an



GIANT HOMER HEN

This Reduced Young Giant Homer Hen, Band No. 2584, was the Best Opposite Sex to Champion at the Salem, Oregon, Show. Also a trophy winner at Casper, Wyo. and the 1970 St. Paul National Show. — Bred and owned by Johnny Severson, Rapid City, S. Dak.

oversized Racing Homer and had colors that were terrible. The best that could be said for them was that they were good producers and feeders. They are still one of the best parents and most will feed any youngster that gets on the floor; some will take care of half a dozen different young ones.

Most Giants now being shown are very close to the Standard. The people who have done most to improve these birds did not forget color either. Good birds are now being shown in most colors and patterns. Andalusians are well established and very beautiful. Recessive red, which has long been one of my favorites, is now being shown in good rich colored birds.

Now something new has been added for those who like to breed the unusual. At the two last National Shows there has been a class for rare colors. At this year's show in St. Paul around 40 birds were shown in this class and caused quite a lot of excitement. This class consisted mostly of opals, almonds and reduced. We can probably expect something new before too long.

Almond, which is fairly common in several breeds, is still not seen in the showroom often enough. With a base

American Giant Homer Master Breeders

1931 — William P. Gray, Darien, Conn.
1941 — Henry Klosterman, Camden, N.J.
1947 — Stanley Stout, Odom, Ill.
1950 — Irvin T. Goss, Louisville, Ky.
1959 — Robert Fisher, Janesville, Wis.
1964 — Joseph Frazier, El Monte, Calif.
1966 — Amos Hodson, Long Beach, Calif.
1968 — Fred Langridge, Dallas, Texas

of yellow or cream and a dappling of black it is a very beautiful bird. Opals, though long recognized, are seldom seen or shown. Some of these seem to be a very clear rich blue and with their golden bronze wing bars and light tail bars are very striking. Reduced was only recognized and introduced to Giant Homers a few years ago. When bred from blue bars they are quite similar to opals, but without the light tail bar. When bred in a checkered pattern they seem to have the gentle lacing of Oriental Frills. Reduced can be bred to most colors and patterns and some of these combinations are really beauties.

So whether you want one color or a variety of colors in your loft you really have a choice with Giant Homers. Keep the Standard handy and show where the best Giants are being shown.

Southern California Exposition Pigeon Show

By NORRIE WEST, Pub. Dir., Del Mar, Calif.

Special awards by pigeon associations and clubs will be offered during the three-day Senior and Junior Pigeon Show, June 24-26, during the Southern California Exposition.

The 12-day Exposition opens June 24 and closes July 5. Entries for the Pigeon Show close June 1, and exhibitors should write Entry Supervisor, Southern California Exposition, Del Mar, Calif., 92014 for premium list information.

Judges for the show will be William Hague, Fallbrook, Calif., James D. Bishop, Lancaster, Calif., and M. A. Olson, Encinitas, Calif., F. A. McDonald, of Vista, Calif., is the show superintendent.



KEIFER and FRAZIER

J. J. Keifer, of Louisville, Ky., well-known judge, discussing a Giant Homer with Joe Frazier of El Monte, Calif. — Photo from Joe Frazier, El Monte, Calif.



Dawson G. Janssen Judging at St. Paul National

Dawson G. Janssen of Marengo, Iowa, judging a class of Blue and Silver Bar American Giant Homers at the 1970 St. Paul National Show. — Photo from Ted Grulke, Oconomowoc, Wis.

What Giant Homers Have to Offer

By PAUL STEIDEN, Louisville, Ky.

Giant Homers have a lot to offer to any pigeon fancier. Fanciers who now have a small breed are probably thinking, yes, those big birds offer to eat you out of house and home. I usually answer those doubters by saying just keep a few less pair and the feed bill can easily be kept in bounds. Giant Homers are considered a medium sized utility breed — not those bantam-sized long loose-feathered things that Fancy breeders are revolted by. Here is a breed that already has many of the features those Fancy breeders would like to see in their present breed. Tight feather, an admirable quality wanted in most breeds. The Giant Homer has it. Wedge shaped body finished off by a short whipped tail. The Giant Homer has it. Like a bird with a head that does justice and improves the bird? The Giant

Homer has it. The Giant Homer head is full but short, showing an almost straight line from the top of the head to the tip of a stout beak, which eliminates the usual "dip" at the wattle, characteristic of the original rock pigeon. A bright racy eye in the center finishes off a truly "classic head". An almost horizontal station gives the whole bird an upright, proud look.

The Giant Homer is a breed that can get along with other breeds of various sizes in the same breeding pen with a minimum of trouble. It comes in a great variety of colors and patterns, including even the rare colors for those in the rare color field. It is a good breeder and something you would be proud to take to any show.

Give the Giant Homer a try in your loft and find a new horizon in pigeon breeding.

Creating Interest in the Pigeon Fancy

By KEITH R. PROFFER, Liberal, Kans.

We are trying to establish interest in the Pigeon Fancy here in Liberal, Seward County, Kansas and surrounding area. When I say we, I mean myself and Gary Steiger, our County 4-H director. I have been reading of Mr. Finefrock's outstanding accomplishments in Oklahoma City and have just finished a letter to him requesting any suggestions he might have for us in our attempt. It might be easier to give you a resume of what we have done and have planned for the future.

Our accomplishments to date haven't been too much, though we may be going at it the wrong way. We have appeared on our local TV program "4-H Facts" presenting the 4-H aspect and exhibiting some of my birds. We had no response. In an attempt to try for a regular club and

work from there toward 4-H, I wrote an article (however it did not pertain to the 4-H aspect of pigeon raising) which appeared in the February APJ with my address and a request to write to me. Again, no results.

At the last meeting of our 5-State Free Fair Board, Gary and I got together with the poultry Superintendent and had a Pigeon Section added to the 4-H section. The quantity of birds entered this first year will probably be fairly small so we have to limit it to judging on a per pair basis with all classes entered in one category. As the entries increase, we intend to break it down for a more exacting judging. I intend to display several varieties I have, although they will be for exhibition only, as well as dis-

(Continued on page 371.)

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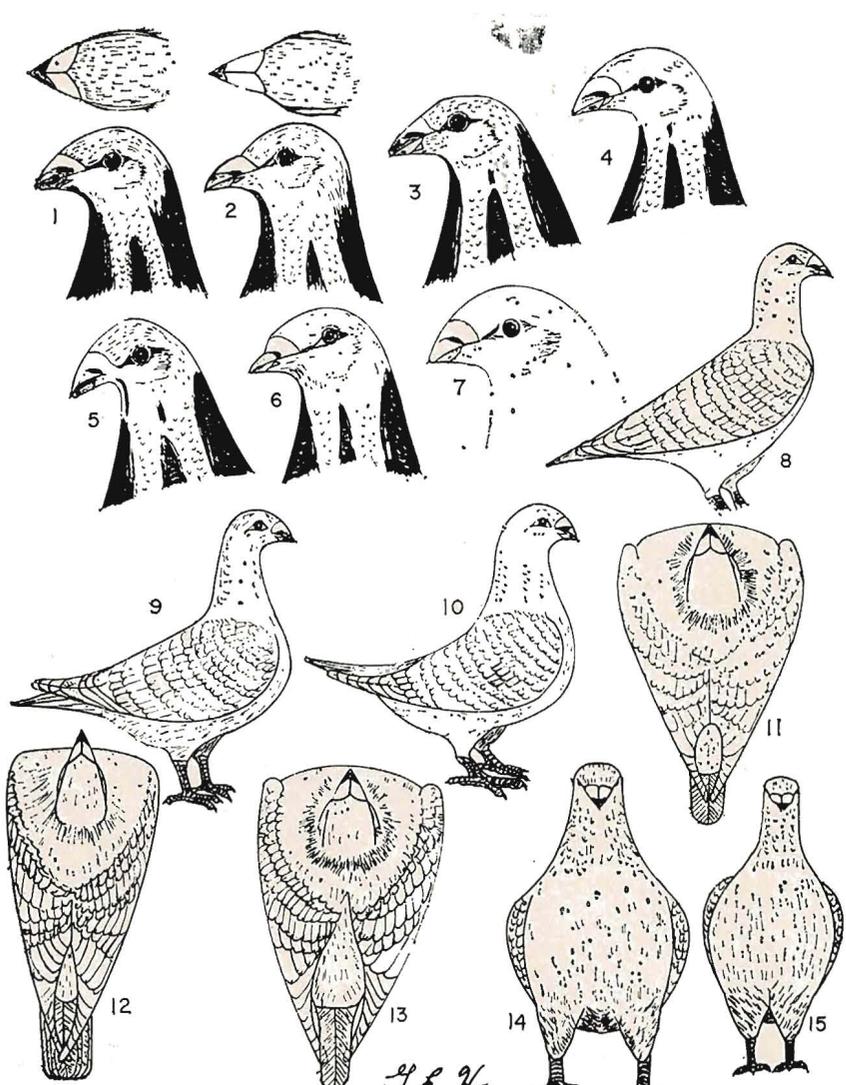
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A Study in American Giant Homers

For a study of the sketches read explanation in the accompanying article by Gerald E. Hobbs. — Sketches by Gerald E. Hobbs, Fort Madison, Iowa.

Views and Reviews of the American Giant Homer

By GERALD E. HOBBS, Fort Madison, Iowa

Since the early history of the American Giant Homer, the isolated breeder has struggled to breed a bird of sufficient quality to show in competition at a nearby show with a side view and a few printed words for a Standard which say long, short, deep etc. but not how long, short or deep. If he is unfortunate to compete with similar befuddled breeders, judged by someone that picks the "snappiest looking" bird, he comes away knowing as little as before he showed and much more frustrated. If he is a little more fortunate and meets an experienced, knowledgeable Giant Homer breeder or judge and he is bold enough to ask, he will be given an explanation of the definition of some of the terms of the Standard and he goes home wiser and happier. Without a reference point these images soon become fuzzy and distorted or

he sees in his loft other birds having these defects to a smaller degree and thinks "all is well". There wasn't time to explain or it wasn't obvious at the show that his birds had other faults and he may go along perpetuating these bad traits in his strain for quite some time. Quite emphatically, much more is necessary for the isolated breeder than a few words and one picture. As an engineer at the Sheaffer Pen Company, I had been a draftsman for a few years so I undertook to make some additional sketches to show the other two views projected from the traditional side view. After all, is one view of the bird all that should concern you and shouldn't the other views be able to show you something the one can't? Perhaps the illustrated faults would also focus the attention of the breeder to the same weakness

in his birds. Figure 1 shows a good type head in profile and top view with smooth flowing curves, a broad rising skull, a flush, neat fitting wattle and good strong beak. The skull should be broad enough in cocks to hide the eyes in the top view.

Figure 2 is a weak-headed bird in profile and from the top view with a weak beak, a break between the muzzle and beak, a thin weak muzzle and lower jaw. These faults are very hard to correct. Also the bird is apt to be rangy and long-boned.

Figure 3 has a flat head with the high point of the head forward from the eye and again a rather thin muzzle but a better lower jaw. The head is narrow when viewed from the top. The eye tends to sit a little too far forward in the head.

Figure 4 has a fairly good head but fails in the jaw and throat. The throat not only cuts back almost to the eye, but also breaks sharply going into the neck and if present on a thick neck, it is even more sharply accentuated. The fault is also hard to overcome.

Figure 5 has a boor back skull and gullet, which is often accompanied by a sharp break at the throat. The poor back skull is not too difficult to counter and not too common. Although the gullet is not listed as a disqualification, one should not show such a bird, since it is hard for the judge to overlook such a distraction.

Figure 6 shows an overpowering head with a weak beak and bad eye placement which is high and to the rear. A line extended rearward from the beak parting should pass through the lower part of the pupil of the eye and the center of the eye should be about one-third of the way between the corner of the mouth and the back of the head. A bird with strong beak and bone will rather easily bring about very good heads in the offspring.

Figure 7 is a deviation from the Standard, being too short, round and full but one not apt to be penalized too heavily by a judge. This type is rare but may be used to correct most of the faults of those found in figure 2 through 6. Heads tend to descend much more frequently and rapidly toward figure 2 than 6. So one must occasionally introduce some of figure 7 into his strain. There are 23 points down to the neck, almost a quarter of the total, and usually judged only visually, so the importance of head drawings is very real.

A profile view of the Standard would be redundant here so I have shown only some of the faults and one should refer to the Standard for a comparison.

Figure 8 has a column shaped neck that breaks sharply into the back which has a downward slope resembling a Show Racer station. The tail extends too far beyond the wing tips, which are broad, lacking a whipped down shape exhibited in the standard. Broad wing tips rarely fit over the back properly. The wing butts are angular and much less pleasing to the eye than the rounded ones and often accompanies the flat breast. These factors are often even more difficult to breed out than some of the head

faults and carry even more points. Even though this bird will feel shallow and thin, one should learn to enjoy eating them. A non-tapering neck will also sometimes be curved as in a swan.

Figure 9 has a little more taper to the neck but is still too thin and breaks at the back. The wings give a side-board effect, because they don't lie flatly on the back. This is often accompanied by a wide flat rump, having a hinge in the tail. This is overcome by a cone shaped rump and allows the wings to lay correctly. Some breeders prefer the straight legs and long shanks shown here and desired in Kings but the Homer-type is characterized typically by the crouching stance, and the short thick legs which give a much stronger appearance.

Figure 10 is a type of bird that looks very good to the beginner but has a hollow back, poor cover over the back and dropped wings. It usually is rather fat and soft and much more predominant in hens when overfed in cooler weather. We see signs of the compact thrust of the swelling rump and breast, a pleasure to hold and a must for squabbling. Figure 10 is preferred over figures 8 and 9 to use as breeders.

Figure 11 is a good type bird with a terrific wedge shape, five inches between the powerful protruding wing butts and the one feather whip tail that also comes with a cone shaped rump. There may be a little too much back cover shown here, but it gives the bird a hard, tight armor-clad look.

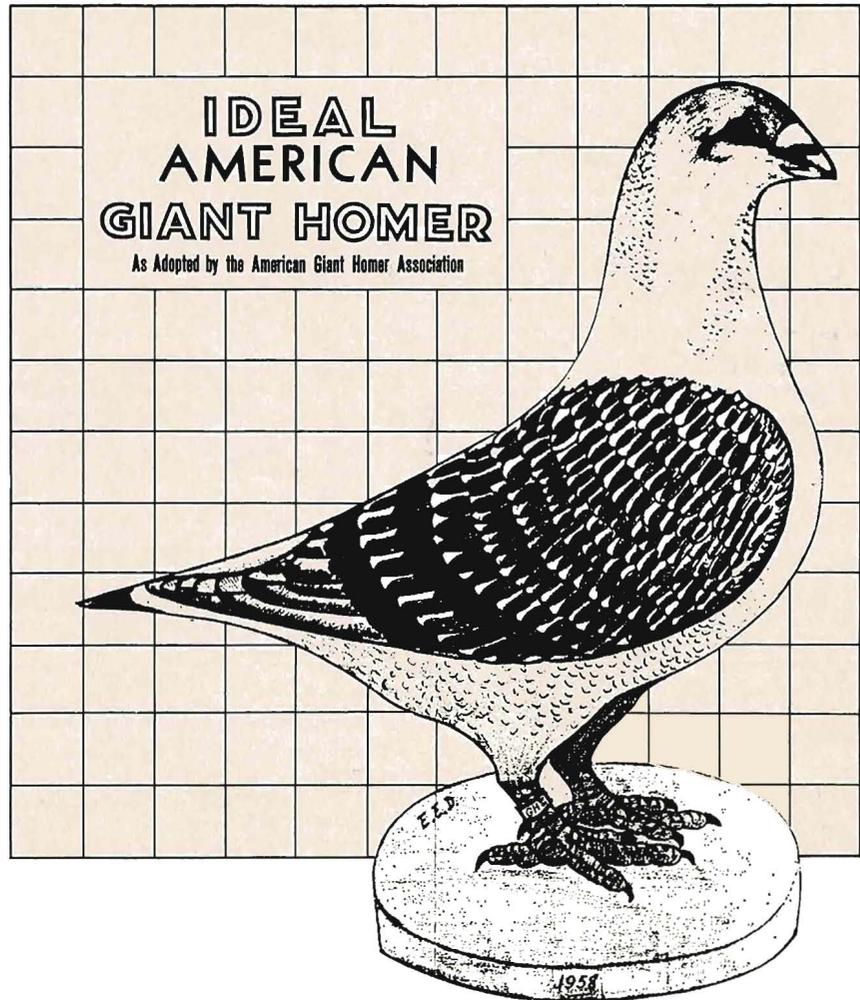
Figure 12 is of long narrow body with a head to match which is typical and could very well be top view of figure 8. It has the flat narrow breast. The beak protrudes beyond. A wide tail with the outer vanes of several feathers are showing and usually terminates into a wide flat rump. Long flights are shown crossing over the tail but should be just together or up to ¼-inch apart. The wings show a lack of wing butts and glide back in a curve that is too straight.

Number 13 could be a top view of figure 10, showing the open back and the dotted lines of the flights going under the tail. The opening of the flights does allow you to see a well-proportioned rump and tail whip. Many of the same comments that are used in figure 10 would apply to figure 13.

Figure 14 is a front view of a good type bird and shows the thick, muscular legs, illustrated as pillars of strength, set well apart for balance. A short thick neck blends well into the body, framed by the heavy wing butts. The head is depicted as a long, smooth curve on top, allowing it to spread to a good width, coming down to the beak with plenty of strength.

Figure 15 could be a front view of figures 8 and 12, exhibiting a column neck and wing butts going well up the neck, also butts showing a lack of thickness. Note the difference in the leg setting from figure 14 and you will see why some birds show well and others don't. The legs taper together into the breast giving the bird a narrow frail appearance.

(Continued on page 376.)



Official Standard for American Giant Homers

As Adopted by American Giant Homer Association

Type — As shown by the Ideal and as set forth in the following Standard.

Beak — Two points. Stout and strong, of medium length, light colored beaks preferred.

Wattle — Two points. Medium size, smooth in texture, free from coarseness and to fit smoothly between head and beak.

Head — Fifteen points. The head in profile broad between the eyes, gradually narrowing rising gradually to above the eye, showing no flatness, then descending to the neck without a broken outline. The top view showing fairly toward the wattle. The whole head and beak should be of medium appearance with no appearance; no broken pupils both eyes same color. In colored birds, eyes should be as highly and richly colored as possible, deep tendency of weakness.

Eyes — Two points. Bright and clear in orange or red preferred, gravel eyes undesirable. In white, any color except pearl.

Cere — Two points. Medium size, smooth and even, light as possible in all colors.

Neck — Five points. Stout, medium length, should taper gradually from head to shoulders. No gullet.

Back — Five points. Flat and straight, broad shoulders gradually tapering to a well filled rump.

Breast — Fifteen points. Prominent, broad and deep, well rounded, and showing well below wing butts.

Keel — Five points. Long, deep and straight.

Body — Twenty points. Short, broad and deep, strongly built, the whole from shoulders to tail having a wedge shaped appearance.

Wings — Ten points. Should be in proportion to length of body, from shoulders to butts prominent and powerful, fitting closely to body. Flight feathers to be carried over tail and wing coverts to fit well over rump.

Tail — Five points. Short and well closed,

overlapping to give the appearance of one feather, not extending over one inch beyond tip of flight feathers, and carried at about a twelve degree angle.

Legs — Two points. Medium length, set well apart, strong in appearance denoting thickness of bone. Thigh, good and muscular; shanks and toes free of feathers.

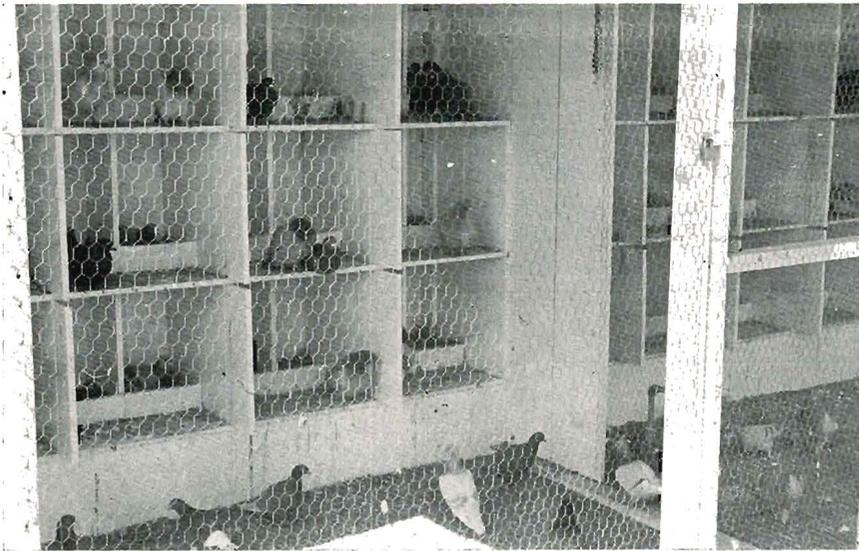
Condition — Ten points. Body firm and muscular; feathers short, broad, hard, tight and smooth in finish.

Colors — The breed is bred in all the Intense and Dilute Phases of Ash-Red, Blue-Black, and Brown, Recessive Red-Yellow, Dual-Colored (Auto-Sexed).

Patterns — Solid, T. Pattern, Check, Bar and Barless. The most popular Solids are Black, Dun, Brown, Khaki, Red, Yellow and White. In T pattern; Ash-Red, Yellow, Black, Dun, Brown and Khaki. In Checkers and Bars; Ash-Red, Yellow, Blue, Silver, Brown and Khaki. Dual-Colored (Auto-Sexed) the cocks are White, with colored flecking on neck and the hens Faded Checks and Faded Bars.

Disqualifications

- Unmistakable evidence of cross breeding.
- Birds showing other than Correct American Giant Homer Type.
- Long, Loose feathers.
- Badly deformed keel.
- Pure white eye.
- Feathers on shanks or toes.
- Having less than twelve (12) tail feathers.
- Birds wearing band with any individual name or mark.
- Birds with more than one band.
- Any conspicuous malformation.
- Birds showing sickness or poor condition.



Nest Arrangement of the Frazier Loft

Picture shows the interior of the loft and nest arrangement of the Joe Frazier Giant Homer loft in California. — Photo from Joe Frazier, El Monte, Calif.

Mating White Giant Homers For Exhibition

By JOHN STOMBAUGH, Winamac, Ind.

Bodies in the Giant Homer are our main concern, but breeders over the past years have managed to take care of this prime detail, and if you buy from a breeder who has been showing his birds, the bodies should pretty well be standard. A tight, wedge-shaped body tapering from well rounded front quarters to a single width tail feather is most desirable, and you can best see this from looking down on the bird when it is on the floor and in a relaxed position. Most birds when alerted and at attention tend to pull their feathers in tight, and in general give a better picture of themselves than when completely relaxed. By an alert bird, I don't mean one that is ready to take off "scared," but one that is conscious of the fact that you are there. That is another advantage you have if you can work with your birds enough so that your presence in the coop won't make them "lose their cool" and try to get out of your way. Move slowly and steadily in the coop, and you will be able to observe your birds in their true light.

By observing your birds from a standing position you can get a good picture of how they truly are. You can see the taper of the tail, the width of the chest, the length of tail, and how the bird covers its wing butts. Here is where we first start culling. Any bird that shows more than 1 or at the most 1½ feather width in tail should be eliminated unless it has some outstanding point you wish to put into your strain. Here, too, we get rid of the birds that are long and weak in chest. If a bird is rangy or high on its legs we can, by proper mating, overcome this, so don't cull a bird because it's rangy unless, of course, it has some other faults. If with its ranginess it has a long tapering head with narrow beak, cull it or put it into a

squabbing program, but don't breed from it. Now bring your birds up to judging level, we are about ready to get down to "brass tacks."

First up is the old white hen that was Champion White at St. Louis. A very nice hen, but possibly a little flat in bottom line. By "flat" I mean she doesn't come down far enough in underline to suit me. Her head is a little long, and I would like to see her just a trifle shorter. The 1st YC at St. Louis is smaller than I like for Giant Homers, but he is very hard feathered, deep in keel or breast line, his head is higher above the eyes than the old hen, and he is shorter in body structure than the hen. They both are from white x splash mating. The hen from a blue splash hen x white cock, and the cock from a dun splash hen x white cock, so I won't worry about feather texture on their young.

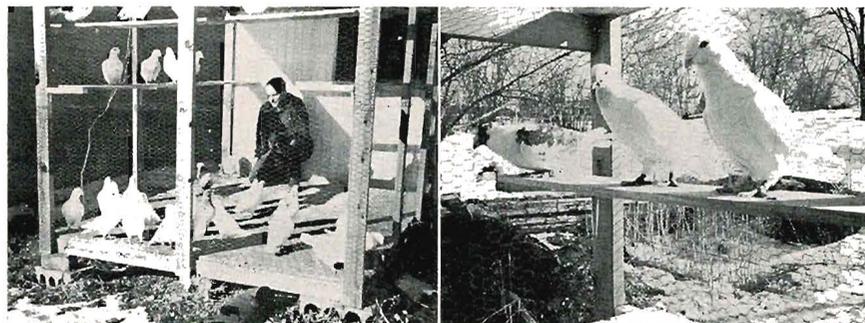
Next pair to mate is the old AOC cock that was 2nd at St. Louis. He is a marvelous stock bird, but if anything, has too much body, since he is

very hard and large. He lacks in strength of neck and head in comparison to his body, and seems a little out of proportion. He is right length for his size, his bone structure is good, he wedges to one tail feather, his station is correct, only fault is size and head. The 2nd AOC YH is a trifle small, but has a wonderful head and neck structure, the head rolling in a broad sweeping curve up from her neck down to her beak. She is very good in type, and "whips" to one tail feather. The cock is out of a white hen x AOC cock, the hen from a white cock x AOC hen.

Third pair is a white cock that I consider strictly "stock", but wouldn't sell for the simple reason that he is the shortest and hardest white I have ever raised. He has one glaring fault, and that is his head is very flat on top above the eyes, making him look quite second-class. He is of medium size, possibly a little smaller than I like, but the old AOC hen that was 1st at St. Louis is a nice-sized bird with a head that is very powerful above the eye-line for a bird of her size. Her only fault is a tendency to be soft in feather, and she does have one cracked eye. This latter fault does not keep me from using her as points on eyes amount to only two, and when the young whites come from this mating, their eyes will all be proper color. You will get a percentage of cracked eyes in breeding whites when you mate to solids and splashes, but if you are working for whites you will overlook some of the faults in order to improve the quality of your white strain. I have found that all whites will come with proper eye color, but the splashes will have a percentage of cracked eyes, and the majority of the judges, if the bird is generally good, will not penalize too much for a cracked eye, or at least let us say "he shouldn't."

Pair Number 4 happened to mate in the cull pen. The hen is rangy with a long head, and the cock is a coarse old "crow" with two feather tail, and just happen to get together. You leave them mated because you might want to feed out a pair of squabs from your scientific matings, but they happen to lay at the wrong time, so you let them raise their own young, and you band them "just in case."

Show time comes around and you enter one bird from each mating, and how do they place? Naturally the one



White American Giant Homers

First picture shows Karl Clendening of Cedar Rapids, Iowa in his loft watching his White Giant Homers. Second picture shows a close-up view of three of his Giant Homers. — Photos from Karl Clendening, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

WHITE AMERICAN GIANT GERMAN BEAUTY HOMERS

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from mating 4 places first. It could happen this way and it does, but 90% of the time you will be ahead if you "go" with planned matings. Try to compensate a fault of one bird with the strength of its mate in order to get a well-balanced bird. If you have a pigeon that is "tremendous" in a particular characteristic, don't be hasty in eliminating it if it fails in other points, because sometimes this one characteristic will make it tremendously valuable in the breeding pen. Good luck in your matings. — Reprinted from April 1968 American Pigeon Journal.

Why I Raise Giant Homers

By JOHN A. KERNAN, Woodsfield, Ohio

One of the first questions that people ask me when they visit my pigeon loft is, "Why do you raise those big pigeons when there are so many cute Fancy breeds?"

My answer is always the same. It's a simple matter of economics. No matter what breed of pigeons you raise, there are always some youngsters that are not show birds or good enough to keep or sell for breeders, in other words "culls". The big difference is that utility "culls" can be put in the "deep" freeze and not the garbage can. This in turn helps with the meat bill which in turn helps with the feed bill. In addition, even culls, make very good eating.

So if you are looking for a breed that is pretty to look at, (no breed has more colors than the Giant Homer) a challenge to breed, and with the side benefit of plenty of squabs, try the American Giant Homer.

Creating Interest In the Pigeon Fancy (Continued from page 367.)

play boards showing pictures of a variety of birds and one showing my costs of raising per bird per year. We also intend to have a registration book for anyone interested in pigeon raising to sign and we will get in touch with them. I am also going to donate a pair of my birds to the top winner in this division. As I am the Superintendent of the Open Class Photography exhibit, I will be pretty busy the first day

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but intend to spend as much time in and around the pigeon exhibit as possible to answer any questions and welcome anyone interested in this hobby. Hopefully we will find enough interested youngsters and adults to at least get a club started.

That pretty well brings you up to date as to what we have done and have planned. If you have any suggestions as to what else we might do to help encourage 4-H'ers or anyone else interested in pigeon raising, we would surely welcome them. Even though our club would be open to all classes, the Racing Homer breeders I have talked to in our area are interested only in racing their birds.

American Giant Homers

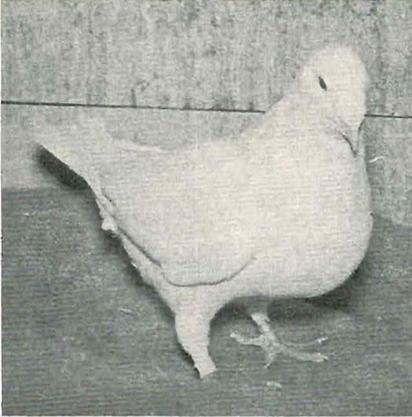
Good Quality In Most Colors

Ralph E. Garber

1170 Taxville Rd., York, Pa., 17404

Loose Feathered Whites A Problem

By JOHN STOMBAUGH, Winamac, Ind.



PRIZE WINNING GIANT HOMER

This Old White Giant Homer Hen was the Best White and Reserve Champion at the District Meet in St. Louis in 1965. — Bred and owned by John Stombaugh, Winamac, Ind.

Looseness of feather is now, was

and always will be a contending problem in raising good whites of proper size. The larger the bird, the looser the feather. The best way to combat this is to never mate two large whites together. I prefer a small to medium hen mated to a large cock, one that has a broad, strong skull structure and full throated neck. It seems that the whites don't show the strength in head and neck that the colored birds do.

To combat the looseness in feather and obtain the size in head and neck, I have found it necessary to mate some of my whites to an intense color every three or four years, preferably a very strong headed blue bar hen. It has been only in the past several years that I have mated white to white, because of feather condition. Now, however, all my whites carry at least twenty-five per cent of intense color in their background and I can mate white with white with some expectation of getting nicely feathered whites.

Giant Homers in a Tourist Cabin

By JOHN A. KERNAN, Woodsfield, Ohio

Down here in the "Switzerland of Ohio" an old time tourist cabin serves as a home for my Giant Homers.

Last fall I purchased a ten acre "ranch" on the edge of town and included in the deal was three tourist cabins approximately eight feet by ten feet each. One of these has been remodeled into a Giant Homer loft which houses eight pair of breeders in a variety of colors and white. I am not an expert on color, but I breed for quality and hope to get as much color as I can get. Personally, I like "splashes" or A.O.C. birds best.

But to get back to the loft. It is equipped with twelve double nests, each measuring twelve inches high, twelve inches deep and twenty-four

inches wide. I also use paper nest bowls.

During the cold weather, I keep a light bulb burning under the water fountain which keeps it from freezing.

This summer I plan to add a wire sunporch three feet high, three feet deep and eight feet long. This will allow the birds to get out and enjoy the sun and will also keep the loft cleaner as the birds will be out in the flypen a good part of the day.

Although I also raise Red Carneaux Texan Pioneers and Swing Pouters (each housed in separate lofts with an extra pen for odd birds out of sight and hearing of the breeders,) Giant Homers are my favorite because of their wide variety of colors and patterns.

A Tribute To Nerry Comeaux

By NORTON WEIST, Wichita, Kans.

As will be noted from recent bulletins of the Giant Homer Ass'n the Giant Homer enthusiasm in Louisiana is growing by leaps and bounds. In just a couple of years they have grown in membership to the extent that they are threatening to surpass the other leading states as far as total members is concerned. As indicated in the last bulletin, a big share of the credit goes to Fred Langridge for his contributions in this area. There has also been a man right on the scene that has been working day and night in behalf of the AGHA. That man is Nerry Comeaux.

I first had the pleasure of meeting Nerry at the Dallas show year before last. At that time he was a little disheartened because of the fact that he had purchased a lot of Giant Homers and found for the most part they were nothing but culls. It is true that some of them didn't cost very much,

but nevertheless when a person gets a pen full he has quite an investment and the feed bill can easily get out of hand. Fortunately for us, Nerry didn't give up in disgust, but decided to stick in there and try again. Through the efforts of some of our members who had some purpose in mind other than trying to make a fast buck, Nerry has been able to assemble a real nice stud of Giants and can look forward to an enjoyable future in the hobby. In addition he is attempting to save the new members down there from the unpleasantness he encountered when first getting started in Giants. Not only does he recruit the new members, but he also tries to help them get at least a pair of quality birds to start with.

Another indication of his willingness to contribute not only his time, but also his money to helping others was revealed just prior to the Lafayette National. I was very surprised to receive a long distance call from Nerry one evening inquiring if we were coming to the show and if he could help in making arrangements for a place to stay. Quite a gesture from a person you have barely met. Keep up the good work, Nerry.

A \$50,000 Pigeon

By GARY SEVERE, Norwalk, Calif.

When I was 9 years old my father bought me and my brother each a pigeon. I really loved this little bird and I decided to enter him at the fair. I took him down to a man on my block who raised many breeds of pigeons and I asked him if I should enter him as a Roller or as a West-of-England Tumbler. He smiled and told me to take my choice because he looked as though he had both breeds in his family tree and probably several other breeds as well. I was disappointed and went home a very sad boy.

I made a decision to sell this cross breed and buy a real good show bird. I went to my father and told him of my plan and asked his advice on what price to ask. He just patted me on the head and told me to shoot for the moon. I remember him telling me to "Think big Gary, think big."

The next day I painted a sign reading "Pigeon for sale \$50,000.00". And I put it out in front of my house. When my dad saw it, he just smiled and said, "Gary you sure are thinking big."

A couple of days passed and I sold the bird to the man down the street. When I told my dad I sold my pigeon. He asked me how much I got for him and I calmly told him I received \$50,000 for him.

His eyes got big and he asked in a shocked voice, "cash money?" Not exactly dad, I took two \$25,000 birds in on trade.

I've raised birds on and off now for 20 years and I'm sure glad the prices have gone down.

Please Note. — We are completely sold out on September Pouter Special, October French Mondain Special, November Jacobin Special, December Modena Special and February Pageant of Pigeons Special. April Trumpeter Special available at 50c each.



NERRY COMEAUX, LAFAYETTE, LA.

Nerry Comeaux is shown checking the beak, head and eyes of a 7-week old Giant Homer. — Photo from Nerry Comeaux, Lafayette, La.

Reflections on the American Giant Homer

By ROBERT S. KREMER, Plainfield, N.J.

In reading through Wendell M. Levi's wonderful new book, "Encyclopedia of Pigeon Breeds" I could not help but reflect on the origin and development of the American Giant Homer. J. J. Keifer in his fine article on the "Early Genetic Components Of Our Present Day Giant Homer" writes that Dr. R. W. Keene of Kentucky was attracted towards the breeding and producing of a breed of pigeons that would produce a good plump squab for the market as well as for exhibition in the showroom. On his farm in O'Bannon, Ky., the foundation was laid for the extensive breeding and development of the American Giant Homer. Jake Keifer, while on his many judging trips throughout the United States, would occasionally obtain foundation stock which was used to make up some part of the American Giant Homer. The general impression is that an oversized working Homer was crossed on a King but this is far from the truth because the following breeds were used: the Working Homer for its productivity; the Coburg Lark for its very deep breast and length of keel; the French Gros Mondain Dunard for its exceptional width of breast, short stout neck and tapered wedge-shaped body and full rump; the Show Homer for the stout, strongly built body, well-rounded chest and broad, full back and strong, big boned, well-set legs; the Exhibition Homer for its smooth, tight finish and hard feather and last but not least, the Antwerp for its short face, good stout frontal and substance of beak.

Some of the early breeders and developers in addition to Keene were

Gray, Kain, Van Buren, Epping, Fowler, Odum and Goss.

About 1955 some of the more progressive breeders of the Giant Homer made an outcross on selected specimens of the Show Racer in order to improve the heads on their show birds for exhibition purposes. What was desired was a stout, well-substantiated beak, a smooth wattle, an unpinched frontal blending smoothly into a nicely rounded skull. In the author's opinion, this outcross "made" the Giant Homer as a show bird. Seldom does one see the long and snaky heads in the showroom that used to prevail. Although the heads have been improved, many of the beaks are weak and perhaps we will have to go back to an outcross on selected specimens of the Antwerp for the stout, well substantiated beak.

The German Beauty Homer as illustrated in Levi's book strongly appealed to me and I wondered if an outcross on selected specimens of the breed would improve the Giant Homer in head and beak properties.

Although the Giant Homer was originated as a dual purpose bird, "The breed that can win in the showroom as well as out produce any other breed", in the past few years it has gone the way of the White King and the Carneau as strains are either kept for production or show as it is almost impossible to have both — something must "go".

Whether you are interested in production or show, I strongly recommend the American Giant Homer to you because it is "tops" in both.

Loft Ideas and Helps For the Breeder

By JOSEPH P. PHILLIPS, Hobart, Ind.

The following ideas and loft construction, which have helped the writer of this article, have been collected from the various wonderful men in this great hobby. The writer has visited many lofts in several states in this great country of ours and has some ideas that may be of help to a novice in the hobby or someone who wants to make a few changes in order to provide better care for his birds in the breeding loft.

The writer visited the loft of John Zobel in South Chicago and there he saw the following nest arrangement, which the writer has used and found to be of great help in solving the problem where the squabs are able to move about in the large nest compartments and at the same time the adult pair is also setting on eggs in the same compartment.

Each compartment is at least 2 feet wide, 28 inches deep and 22 inches high. All compartments have wire fronts that can be opened to clean the compartment or place nest boxes inside or remove them. In the rear or on the side of each compartment, the writer has built a removable shelf one foot wide that is located about 11 to

12 inches off the floor.

The 11 in. by 11 in. and 4 in. deer nest box is placed in a corner of the floor of the compartment for the first hatch. When the squabs are about two weeks old and the adult pair is ready to start their next brood, another nest box is placed on the shelf above the other nest box. The adult pair generally is very happy to get up on the removable shelf and into the other nest box to start the next brood away from the always hungry squabs or youngsters on the floor of the compartment.

When the youngsters are taken from the compartment and it is cleaned the upper nest box and its eggs or squabs can be moved to the lower level anytime before the starting of the next brood. This arrangement can be continued as long as desired.

The writer lives in a northwestern Indiana where the waters get so cold that the temperature sometimes goes as low as 20 below zero. Because of this the writer conceived the following inexpensive means of keeping the water from freezing in the drinking fountains.

(Continued on page 374.)

Boosting

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How To Successfully Trim Feed Costs

By GERHARD HASZ, Indianapolis, Ind.

There are several approaches to the problem. The indirect ways of holding down feed costs can be practiced by all of us regardless of what kind of feed is involved. It simply boils down to a matter of not wasting it on mice, rats, sparrows, and non-productive or unprofitable pigeons. If for some reason surplus birds must be harbored let them make out with the lowest cost grains available such as a low-protein maintenance ration, which incidentally is also perfectly adequate for overwintering breeding stock. Just how such a ration might be constituted would depend on what sort of feed grains are most readily available in your locality. Common sense would argue for a combination of several grains, although the writer recalls his boyhood experiences with pigeons in northern Wisconsin, in which instance the entire ration consisted of oats. Later, during the early thirties in North Dakota I raised Pigeons (and shipped iced squabs to Chicago) on an exclusive diet of Durum wheat. (This "macaroni wheat" sometimes tested as high as 18% protein). When available, spelt and barley were added for variety.

Today I would say, by all means let your maintenance ration contain some yellow corn. It is an excellent source of vitamin A, and during the cold months of the year without equal for providing body heat. Here in the corn belt my ration is made up of from 50% to 75% of whole yellow corn, the percentage varying with the temperature (not over 50% when the water fountains stop freezing up). In the southern states much of the corn can be reflected with sorghum grain (milo or kañir). Some wheat is desirable at all times. Barley and oats are good, if the price is right. If I lived in a rice growing area I would be inclined to search out a source of unpolished rice screenings. The point that I want to emphasize is: don't hesitate to take full advantage of whatever local grains are available at market prices. Lay in a year's supply of such grains at harvest time. Buy from the producer; the middle man will make out all right.

So much for generalities. Raising prime quality squabs and lots of them (not to mention helping youngsters and breeding stock through the moult as quickly as possible) demands a bit more, more protein, that is. Adding peas to the ration has long been the accepted way of raising the protein content of a pigeon grain mixture. But this can get expensive for those of us who live a considerable distance from pea country. What alternatives do we have. The writer resorted to turkey grower pellets as a substitute for peas until they ceased being available (the turkey breeders switched to krumbles). What was it, I asked myself, that boosted the protein level in the turkey pellets? A perusal of the feed tags left little doubt that it is soybean meal, more than anything else, that is putting lots of meat on the breastbone of the turkey. So we located a retail outlet of Central Soya of Indiana and

purchased a hundred pound bag of soybean meal. (To dream of finding a soybean meal pellet on the market would be expecting too much.) My birds had to learn to eat this cornmeal-like manna, but once they tasted it they came back for more whenever their body craved protein. They have constant access to it in special feeders made out of one gallon paint buckets. (Cut a U with a curved tinsnip on opposite sides of the can and bend the U in and up; tape the sharp edges.) An inverted V made of a couple of short boards and placed over the feeder solves both the problem of roosting and tip-over; the top cock of the pecking order may elect to perch there but he won't be able to molest the hungry.

Come to think of it, maybe it was just as well that I was unable to locate soybean meal in pellet form. I recall seeing some very soggy nests in the loft of a squab breeder who apparently let his birds eat all the turkey pellets they wanted. Wasn't it Shakespeare that said: "Leave good enough alone; for, striving to better, oft we mar what's well"?

When pigeons are feeding squabs or growing a new coat of feathers their protein requirements are higher than at any other time. The easiest way of supplying those extraordinary demands on the body chemistry is to feed a 15% to 18% (protein) pigeon pellet engineered by the pigeon nutrition experts. If your budget can't negotiate that kind of luxury, buy locally grown grains and boost the protein level by supplementing the grain with game bird finisher pellets, the protein level of which compares favorably with that of peas. Dollar for dollar, the 20% protein game bird pellet offers a wider spectrum of nutritional values than the highest grade pen. But for downright nitty-gritty economy in supplying extra protein when needed you can't beat soybean meal; that is my considered opinion, based on practical experience and admittedly unscientific methods of valuation.

Southern Tier Pigeon Fanciers Club

By JOE JUST, Beaver Dams, N.Y.

As acting President of the Southern Tier Pigeon Fanciers Club, I would like to extend my thanks to all of you who came to our first all breed winter show.

For a fledgling club like ours to even get off the ground is an effort that would be completely impossible without most generous support. Because of this support we now have a good base to build on and we pledge our best efforts in holding meets at those times in the year that usually are void of competition.

Our show was held Jan. 25 at the Chemung County Fairgrounds in Horseheads, N.Y. We would like to say "Thank you" to the judges who evaluated the 162 birds that were entered by 20 fanciers. The judges were Bill Hart, Dale Turner, Ron BeGell, and Harry Jaiss.

American Giant Homer Champions At The National Pigeon Ass'n Shows

1923 Harrisburg, Pa., J. H. Van Buren, Ill.
1929 Sunter, S.C., Charles Correll, Tenn.
1930 Peoria, Ill., Louis Johann, Collinsville, Ill.
1931 Belleville, Ill., Alfred E. Givinzazi, N.J.
1932 Louisville, Ky., Dr. R. W. Keene, Ky.
1933 Charlotte, N.C., Alfred E. Givinzazi, N.J.
1934 Springfield, Ill., Alfred E. Givinzazi, N.J.
1935 Dallas, Texas, Dr. R. W. Keene, Ky.
1936 Peoria, Ill., H. M. Fowler, Ky.
1937 Peoria, Ill., Hugh Williams, Ind.
1938 St. Louis, Mo., Dr. R. W. Keene, Ky.
1939 Oakland, Calif., Irvin T. Goss, Ky.
1940 Philadelphia, Pa., Robert S. Dare, N.J.
1941 Lansing, Mich., Irvin T. Goss, Ky.
1942 Long Beach, Calif., YB J. Fields, OB C. L. Derr
1945, 1944, 1943, No shows due to W. W. 2
1946 Ft. Worth, Texas, C. E. Bahr, Tex.
1947 Lynchburg, Va., Stanley Stout, Ind.
1948 Belleville, Ill., Irvin T. Goss, Ky.
1949 Long Beach, Calif., Elmer C. Wenck, Wis.
1950 Camden, N.J., J. M. Tripp, N.Y.
1951 Des Moines, Iowa, Irvin T. Goss, Ky.
1952 Des Moines, Iowa, Robert E. Fisher, Wis.
1953 Des Moines, Iowa, Robert E. Fisher, Wis.
1954 Indianapolis, Ind., Gerhard Hasz, Ind.
1955 Atlantic City, N.J., R. E. Fisher, Wis.
1956 Des Moines, Iowa, Robert E. Fisher, Wis.
1957 Atlantic City, N.J., Richard Gibson, Ind.
1958 Stockton, Calif., Joe Frazier, Calif.
1959 Milwaukee, Wis., Joe Frazier, Calif.
1960 Atlantic City, N.J., Walter Teskey, Minn.
1961 LaFayette, La., Paul Steiden, Ky.
1962 Long Beach, Calif., James Wetmore, Cal.
1963 St. Louis, Mo., Harlan Wiegand, Iowa
1964 Asbury Park, N.J., Joseph Frazier, Calif.
1965 Dallas, Texas, Amos Hodson, Calif.
1966 Costa Mesa, Calif., Amos Hodson, Calif.
1967 Milwaukee, Wis., Ted Grulke, Wis.
1968 Atlantic City, N.J., David Brooke, Calif.
1969 Ft. Worth, Texas, Ray Greene, Iowa
1970 St. Paul, Minn., Greene and Hobbs, Iowa

American Giant Homer Champion Young Birds At National Pigeon Association Shows

1955 Atlantic City, N.J., Robert Fisher, Wis.
1956 Des Moines, Iowa, Robert Fisher, Wis.
1957 Atlantic City, N.J., Irvin T. Goss, Ky.
1958 Stockton, Calif., Joseph Frazier, Calif.
1959 Milwaukee, Wis., Dawson Janssen, Iowa
1960 Atlantic City, N.J., Walter Teskey, Minn.
1961 LaFayette, La., Paul Steiden, Ky.
1962 Long Beach, Calif., Amos Hodson, Calif.
1963 St. Louis, Mo., Joseph Frazier, Calif.
1964 Asbury Park, N.J., R. S. Kremer, N.J.
1965 Dallas, Texas, Joseph Frazier, Calif.
1966 Costa Mesa, Calif., Amos Hodson, Calif.
1967 Milwaukee, Wis., Darvin Jenner, Ariz.
1968 Atlantic City, N.J., David Brooke, Calif.
1969 Ft. Worth, Texas, David Brooke, Calif.
1970 St. Paul, Minn., Gerald Hobbs, Iowa

Loft Ideas and Helps for the Breeder (Continued from page 373.)

The writer always separates the hen birds from the cock birds during the winter months and uses the 2-gallon water fountains that can be obtained from several of the pigeon supply houses.

The writer placed each fountain above a 3 1/2 inch frame made from 1" by 4" boards. The frame was made so the fountain sat flush on top. Inside the frame was placed a metal container. The metal container was made from a 3 lb. coffee can cut down to fit inside the wooden frame. Insert a heavy rubber light bulb socket through a hole cut in the side of the metal container and wire to an electric outlet. Put 1 or 2 nail holes in the bottom of the container to drain any water that might be spilled in it from time to time. Use a 25 watt bulb in the socket and if the temperature goes below zero exchange the bulb for a larger one.

Everyone that has seen these two ideas that are being used in the writer's loft has made commendable comments. The writer believes anyone using these ideas will not be sorry he read this article and put the ideas to work.



As We See It

Cortus T. Koehler

The Pageant Of Pigeons

The Marked Catalog for the 1969 Pageant will soon be in the hands of many breeders; and if you do not have a copy I would strongly recommend you order one from the Los Angeles Pigeon Club. This is an annual publication which no breeder should be without; in fact for many breeds — because of the large number of photographs the catalog contains — this publication could well serve as an index to the breeds progress over the years.

In my collection I have one copy of the catalog going back to 1915. When one starts from this point in time and proceeds to the present day they quickly become aware of the past history of many breeds in this country. For example, the structural changes certain breeds have undergone, the addition or loss of various colors or patterns, and the popularity of a breed in numbers of breeders, etc., can be determined.

Also, I might mention that another annual project of the Los Angeles Pigeon Club is coming up soon; their summer show will be held on Aug. 9th, 1970 at the Pomona Fair Grounds. This event attracts many breeders from the Southern California area, and again promises to be the summer show in the Western Region of the United States.

Additionally, the Los Angeles Pigeon Club is planning to issue a monthly newsletter under the editorship of I. W. Metcalf.

To Tom McCaig and I. W. Metcalf, we in the Fancy want to thank you for a job well done on the new catalog.

Missing Pigeons?

More accurately, pigeon stealing — seems to be on the increase both in the loft and at the shows. Personally, the stealing of pigeons from a breeder's loft is easy to control if the breeder will make the effort to implement a few deterrent devices. There is an old saying that a lock is meant to keep an honest person honest; in other words, just placing a lock on your loft isn't enough. Other things that can be done are:

1. Place a light on the outside of the loft above the door.
2. Place a flood light or several near the loft and around the yard.
3. Construct a fence not only to keep your small children and pets in your yard but one designed also to keep strangers out. For example, a redwood grapestake fence is difficult to climb and usually means many splinters for those that attempt it. A cyclone fence with the industrial barbed wire top is also excellent.
4. Many pigeon lofts (especially in metropolitan areas) set back close to the property line, and in such a situa-

tion the loft roof is often used as a device to gain entry into the yard. Where this exists a situation can be created whereby it would be difficult to climb the roof. For example, barbed wire can be fixed to the roof, nails can be put through lath stripping and then fixed upside down on the roof. Before a person enters a situation such as this he will stop and think.

5. Lastly, but perhaps of first importance is a working dog. Note I said working dog. These include Boxers, some Hounds, Great Danes, Doberman Pinchers, and most of all the famed German Shepherds. In short, you want a dog of size and temperament who will and can convey the message to a stranger that he does mean business. Next, train or have the dog trained so that he knows exactly what his tasks are and will be capable of fulfilling it.

Let me re-emphasize that the function of these devices is a deterrent one, and not intended to trap one into a situation harmful to life or limb. That is to say, that before a person climbs a fence yielding splinters, crosses a roof with nails, enters a yard where he feels there exists a possibility of him and a dog clashing, he will stop and think about whether or not the price he may have to pay is worth it, and in all probability decide it is not. Moreover, if the place is well lighted you will have fulfilled your responsibility in forewarning him.

Library Quality

Is an accurate description of George J. Kleinpell's book "The Turbit Handbook." While focusing on the Turbit, the depth of quality with which Mr. Kleinpell deals with his subject matter renders the book worthy of the consideration of all persons interested in the breeding of pigeons.

Included in the book are articles by P. Ray, R. F. Kelley and the late Jim Muir. The book contains many drawings and photos; most interesting to this writer is a chart setting forth in an historical context the development of the Turbit head.

Mr. Kleinpell's chapter entitled Turbit Tips in a concise, staccato fashion gives the best approach to the management of Turbits and pigeons that I have seen in a long time. Furthermore, the breeders of any shortface breed who use feeders will find Mr. Kleinpell's chapters on feeders very instructive.

This in short is a book I would urge you to ask your local public library to purchase. All that you need give them is the title, the author's name and the book's Library of Congress Card Catalog number, which is: 68: 55568.

Dr. Robert Durig

The Secretary of the German Beau-

ty Homer Club has again broadened the scope of the club's sphere of influence and service to the club members and the German Beauty Homer breed; Dr. Durig now issues the Club's monthly newsletter in both English and French. This bilingual capability has enabled the club to obtain several new French-Canadian members and thus broadens the exchange of ideas and interest of the breed in North America.

Furthermore, Robert's ability to also be fluent in German has been a great help in translating articles, parts of books and news items written in the language of the homeland of the German Beauty Homer. This club is now in its second year and welcomes those persons interested in joining a dynamic organization of fine fanciers to write Dr. Durig at 1960 Goldsmith Lane, Louisville, Ky., 40208.

Robert Pettit

Is in the process of attempting to establish a speciality club for Argent Modena Breeders. The Argent has long been a favorite of mine and my only regrets regarding this endeavor is that the late Bill Pensom is not still with us to participate in such a project. For the Blue and Black Argent along with the Black Gazzi were Bill's favorite colors in Modenas. Opportunity abounds in this variety for the Argent pattern exists now in several colors and the potential to broaden the color spectrum in Argents is great.

Robert Pettit is a fine gentleman and a keen breeder interested in genetics and more specifically the Argent; he would be happy to hear from those persons interested in helping to start and participate in such an organization.

Bay Shore Variety Pigeon Club Winter Show

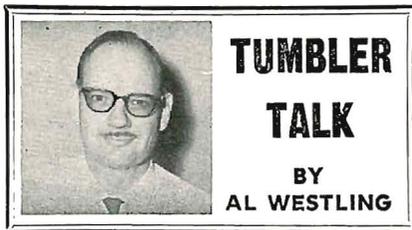
By JOHN F. FREIBURG, Publicity Director, Freehold, N.J.

The Bay Shore Variety Pigeon Club had a very successful Winter Show which was held February 14th-15th, 1970, at The Palmer Lounge Hall, Palmer Avenue, West Keansburg, New Jersey.

Jerry Miraglia did a wonderful job as our Show Secretary. Forty-five exhibitors entered 333 birds covering 28 varieties.

The Show results are as follows: Runts, 1st and 2nd Trophy, Wes Conover. French Mondain, 1st Trophy, J. Sexton. 2nd Trophy, J. Sexton. Blondinettes, 1st Trophy, Tony Siolone. 2nd Trophy, A. Lamp. Homers, 1st Trophy, S. Martin. 2nd Trophy, M. Lamp. Canadian Tippers, 1st Trophy, D. Lamp. 2nd Trophy, D. Lamp. Moorheads, 1st Trophy, T. Vitale. Budapests, 1st Trophy, N. Rotolo Rollers, 1st Trophy, J. De Pasia. Nuns, 1st Trophy, J. Diaz. 2nd Trophy, J. Diaz. Jacobis, 1st Trophy, R. Stepnowski. 2nd Trophy, R. Stepnowski. Fantails, 1st Trophy, J. Miraglia. Flying Tippers, 1st Trophy, Emil Selmau.

Juror Awards: — Best Short Face, Oriental Frill, Mike Lamp. Best Long Face, Jacobin, Carole Doerr. Best Bird In Show, Oriental Frill, Mike Lamp. Trophies donated by Frank O'Brian. \$5.00 Cash Award donated by John Mage. \$3.00 Awarded to Mike Lamp. \$2.00 Awarded to Carole Doerr.



**TUMBLER
TALK**
BY
AL WESTLING

I recently received two birds from Bill Meyer. They were shipped from Harrisburg, Pa. at 10 o'clock on a Wednesday morning, but were not received in Topeka until the following Saturday, late in the afternoon. I would guess that flying time would be no more than four hours even if they came via Chicago, yet this is the kind of service we can now expect, when shipments must transfer several times in going from one place to another. It really is no better than rail shipment of a few years ago! And Frontier Airlines which serves Topeka and many of the Midwest cities again applied an embargo on livestock shipments during the Christmas holidays, and will accept no livestock shipments after Wednesday of any week. So, there are now just three days a week that pigeons can be shipped from cities served exclusively by this air line. It is becoming increasingly difficult to ship by air at all!

The Andalusian

Several Tumbler fanciers have asked "what is the Andalusian," and how do you breed them? One fancier said he knew that the Andalusian was a combination of black, white and blue, but did not know what color cock to mate to what hen to get them. Another was puzzled by the color and thought it must be closely related to ash-red because the tail color was similar in both colors. Both of these fanciers are quite mistaken though their assumptions are reasonable enough.

Wendell Levi has written two excellent books. In his first, "The Pigeon" he tells how the color "indigo" was discovered and how the first Andalusian was bred by mating an indigo to a self black, the offspring being very similar to the blue Andalusian fowl.

In his more recent work "Encyclopedia of Pigeon Breeds", pages 151 and 153, are some excellent photos of spread indigos, both impure (heterozygous) and pure (homozygous), and they are in color. It is the heterozygous indigo that is called Andalusian, while in the pure form the color is almost like that of a very lightly laced black Blondinette.

The Andalusian Tumbler hen shown in the photo, appearing with this article, is I think, a good representative of what is desired in color and pattern in the Tumbler. She is bred from an Andalusian cock and a black self hen. There is no red in her plumage, which is perhaps the most common fault in the color of many.

Back in about 1960, Bernard Petersen sent me a barless indigo Show Pen Racer, for use in my blue barless Tumbler project. The bird looked exactly like a blue barless except the tail feathers had no black terminal band. It was when I mated this bird to blue barred Tumblers and got offspring

with reddish bars and ash colored tails, that I realized I was working with a new color in Tumblers, and by describing it and my breeding results to Dr. Hollander, he confirmed that the color was indigo and I now had it started in the barred pattern. Actually I did not like the color and decided not to perpetuate it, since I had also bred a few blues that carried the barless factor, but not the indigo, since indigo is dominant to blue.

About the time I was ready to dispose of the last of my barred indigos, a three-fourths Tumbler hen, Bob Smith, of California came for a visit to my loft and mentioned that Adair Allen wanted to breed some Andalusian Tumblers. I told Bob that I already had them started but did not want to add black selfs at the time, to my already over-crowded loft, so I volunteered to ship the hen to Adair and thereby save him two generations of breeding, and he already had the blacks needed to get the color and improve the Tumbler qualities. So that is what I did and that is where the Andalusian Tumbler originated. A few years later Adair was kind enough to send me a few Andalusians and I kept one cock to start my own stud, and passed the others on to two other breeders.

All the credit for the Andalusian as we have them today is due Adair Allen. He brought them masterfully up to show quality and has been most generous in distributing them to a number of other breeders both in America and abroad. His fine stud of black selfs put the heads, beaks and type on them and the best I have seen are certainly not far behind, or perhaps even equal in Tumbler properties to many of the blacks we see shown today.

Andalusian is really an easy color to work with. All one needs is an Andalusian to mate to a black self and it doesn't make any difference which sex is used, fifty per cent of the offspring, on an average, will be Andalusian. Continual matings to good black selfs will establish the color and improve Tumbler properties. I feel certain that in a few years time we will find good competition in the color and it will be standardized. Until such time, I would suggest that when birds are culled for color, that the reddish tint be eliminated if possible and the dark blue-grey ground color with black lacing on each feather be bred for.

Already Bob Smith has bred dilute Andalusians which are perhaps not quite as pretty as the intense color. I am at present attempting to breed a reduced Andalusian which may be a beautiful bird, or may turn out to be disappointing as some genetic combinations have proven to be. In closing, I would like to clarify: Indigo is the color. Andalusian is the name given to the spread form of indigo when occurring in the impure state as the result of mating to a black self.

Views and Reviews Am. Giant Homer
(Continued from page 368.)

Our American Giant Homer is a bird of strength without length. You see it in his claws, toes, shanks, legs, tail, wings, neck, head, muzzle and



ANDALUSIAN TUMBLER HEN

A 1969 Andalusian Tumbler Hen bred by Al Westling, Topeka, Kans.

beak. This calls for short, stout, heavy bones throughout. He is not something with a lot of fancy frills but has utility value and is an admirable show bird. So if you want a bird with a good past and tremendous future, breed the American Giant Homer.

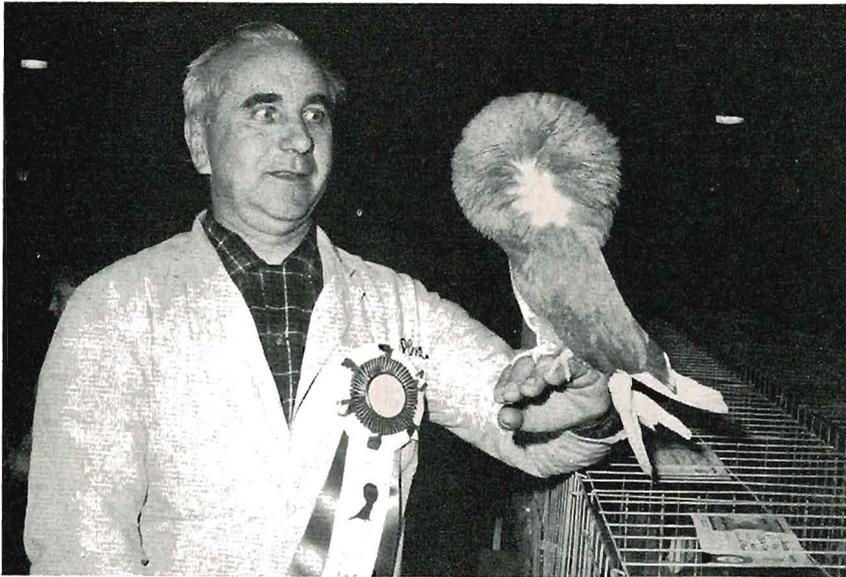
Regarding the Giant Runt Standard

By A. F. CHAISSON, Luling, La.

The Giant Runt Standard is a question or topic of discussion. What is the Standard of a Giant Runt? As far as I know there is no special length, height or width in inches. From what I heard or read about the Giant Runt, it should be as long as possible with a powerful head and neck, the width and height should be in proportion to keep type. It takes time, patience and proper breeding to come close to the beautiful Standard that Runts International has adopted for the next few years. I know for sure that it took a lot of time and patience for the breeders to come up with the Standard we now have. Why let the time, hard work and patience of these wonderful men who worked so hard go down the drain just because someone can't raise a Giant that can come close to the Standard? I'd like to raise a Runt 20" long, 6" across the breast and 15" high and medium on legs and weighing about 5 lbs., with a powerful head and neck. Some day someone will come up with a Runt like that. However if the Standard says it can't be over 17" long, 5" across the breast and 13" high and can't weigh more than 4 lbs., with a normal size broad neck, I can't see any use of trying to raise large type birds for show. Personally, I love a large well proportioned Runt, the larger the better, with type of course. I think this is the goal of all Giant Runt breeders.

Thank you gentlemen, whoever you are that had anything to do with the present Standard. May you be rewarded some day, instead of criticized.

Turn surplus birds into cash by advertising in the APJ. A 2-inch ad costing \$6 should do the trick. Give it a trial. It pays.



Stan Plona Holding His Prize Winning Jacobin

Picture shows Stan Plona of Avon, Conn. holding his prize winning Red Jacobin, Band No. 408. It was judged the Best Old Red Jacobin in the Ohio Show Classic at Worthington, Ohio, January 9-11. — Photo from L. A. Traub, South Elgin, Ill.

Report on the Jacobin Classic in Ohio

By L. A. TRAUB, Sec.-Treas. Central Jacobin Society, South Elgin, Ill.

Have been overwhelmed lately for results of the Jacobin Classic at Columbus, Ohio last January 9, 10, and 11. With the kind indulgence of Editor American Pigeon Journal will list results to first place in each class. President Gale Vandenberg of Madison, Wisconsin, informs me that results of the show have gone to all known Jacobin fanciers but due to the world wide circulation of American Pigeon Journal and Jacobin interest throughout the world perhaps this article is called for even though show has been over for some five months. One more note of interest, for the first time you will note yearling classes are listed primarily because of great interest in Jacobins and the extra large classes that would have been encountered. At the show and afterwards great interest in yearlings was discussed and it looks like at future shows yearling classes will again be offered if class size warrants some.

Reds were again the first to be judged and looked over by Ed McLean of Norval Ontario, Canada. A total of 81 reds were shown. First place as follows: Old Cocks (20) Plona. Old Hens (11) Bachmann. Yearling Cocks (9) Boug (best red). Yearling Hens (10) Boug. Young Cocks (18) McNorgan.

Reds as a class were about on a par with other club meets except 1st yearling cock and hen which were outstanding.

A total of 83 Yellows were judged by Paul McNorgan also of Canada. First place winners: Old Cocks (11) Boug (best Yellow). Old Hens (13) Dr. Dean. Yearling Cocks (7) Lee. Yearling Hens (14) Kautzer. Young Cocks (22) Dean. Young Hens (18) Dean.

Yellows did not seem to be as good

overall as previous years yet some excellent birds were shown in each class.

Total of 37 Blacks were judged by Reed Kinzer of Lancaster, Pa., President of Eastern Jacobin Club. First place winners: Old Cocks (5) Peters. Old Hens (5) Bachmann. Yearling Cocks (8) Bachmann. Yearling Hens (2) Reich. Young Cocks (10) Bachmann (best black). Young Hens (6) Stuber.

Blacks as a class were smaller in number than usual but much improved in color type and over-all appearance, etc.

Total of 96 whites were on display and the largest color class of the show and were judged by John Maliza of New York, former President of Eastern Jacobin Club and a top blue and

black Jacobin breeder. First place winners: Old Cocks (21) Bachmann (best white). Old Hens (15) McNorgan. Yearling Cocks (17) Bachmann. Yearling Hens (9) McLean. Young Cocks (20) Dr. Dean. Young Hens (14) Vandenberg.

Whites were in excellent condition as a class and top half of birds in each class all could have won a different day or different time out.

Total of 92 A.O.C.'s were on display and as usual quality-wise bird for bird were possibly the best Jacobins on display. Judge: Louie Christener, Bay City, Michigan. First place winners: Old Cocks (15) Vandenberg. Old Hens (13) Vandenberg. Yearling Cocks (20) McNorgan. Yearling Hens (8) Bachmann. Young Cocks (25) Boug (best AOC). Young Hens (11) McNorgan.

An excellent group of A.O.C.'s with outstanding young A.O.C. cocks.

Total of 33 Blues were judged by old master Ray Boug of Canada. First place winners: Old Cocks (11) Ruby. Old Hens (6) Maliza. Yearling Cocks (8) Traub. Yearling Hen (1) Maliza. Young Cocks (5) Christener (best blue). Young Hens (2) Roehen.

Blues overall not nearly as good as I expected most off on color except Yearling Cocks and Young Cocks.

Total of 25 silvers, fair turnout of silvers better on color than the blues over all. Judged by Ray Boug. First place winners: Old Cocks (2) Roehen. Old Hens (4) Traub. Yearling Cocks (4) Reich. Yearling Hen (1) Roehen. Young Cocks (8) McLean (best silver). Young Hens (6) Walling.

McLean's young silver cock was outstanding for a silver perhaps as good a silver ever bred.

Grand Champion Jacobin Yearling Red shown by Roy Boug. Best young and best Old also by Roy Boug.

Join the Central Jacobin Club by sending \$5 dues to L. A. Traub, 262 Kane Street, South Elgin, Ill., 60177. Dues for 1970 are due now.

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Judging Jacobins at the Ohio Show Classic

Three well-known Jacobin judges in action at the Ohio Show Classic held January 9-11 at Worthington, Ohio. First picture shows John Maliza of Brooklyn, N.Y., judging White Jacobins. Second picture shows Ed McLean of Norval, Ont., Canada, judging the Reds. Third picture shows Reed Kinzer of Lancaster, Pa. judging the Blacks. A total of 450 Jacobins were in the show. — Photos from L. A. Traub, South Elgin, Ill.

King Komments

By PEGGY HORN

Publicity Director
American King Club

The Spring issue of the AKC has just arrived, and I have spent several hours in leisurely reading the articles and looking at the pictures. The Secretarial team of Fred and Wanda Gunzel is doing an outstanding job in compiling and editing our Specialty Club publication. The pictures are just "out of this world", both in posing the bird and reproduction in print. For the first time, pictures of Kings are true likenesses and show the breed in its natural station. The full page picture of Grand Champion hen No. 1034 (page 19) is just breath-taking. The pictures of the Champions on pages 20 through 23 are some of the finest poses of Kings that have ever been photographed. Our hats are off to Fred and Wanda for their devotion and dedication to the hobby that we all love so much.

I enjoyed reading the fine article by H. H. Felbinger (very thought provoking), the article for beginners by Phil Van Norman, the well-written informative article on color by Tanner Chrisler, and Jack Ragle's memories of Hawaii. These articles are informative, entertaining and contribute greatly toward making our journal the best of all Specialty Clubs.

When the Standard Committee admitted the True Silver and clarified the description of Brown and Dun, a bridge was crossed that has opened up new avenues of challenge. Interest in this new color is increasing and from reports all over the country many old breeders are taking up this challenge and are on the trail of the True Silver. We will see some funny looking Kings in the coming fall shows, but they will be True Silver. It will be interesting to see if any true Duns are shown. With Blacks making such a terrific come-back the past two years, surely some true Duns should appear along the way.

The interest in colored Kings is a healthy sign and might be just the prescription to inject new life and enthusiasm into a tired old White and Silver club. The Blues for years have struggled along, barely holding their own, being kept for the most part by silver breeders for reciprocal matings. In a club that was formed originally of squab breeders, the colors black and blue were not economically feasible. From the beginning the membership was prejudiced toward these colors, and this has continued down through the years. The breeders of Whites and Silvers have in many small ways and quite unintentionally, passed rules and regulations that have helped the Whites and hindered the colored. We must reverse this discrimination and give the colored birds a greater proportion of our specials, more promotion and advertising, and more effort toward improving their show qualities. My hat is off to the breeders in the second and fifth dis-

tricts who have injected new life into the Blacks, and to the experimenters who are working toward a new color in Kings, the True Silver. I hope that within a few years we can enter a showroom and see beautiful specimens of True Silvers, Ash-red bars, and perhaps Andalusian or some of the other rare colors. To the breeder who likes the challenge of new colors, a fertile field is being opened. The Standard Committee of the American King Club will have to recognize these colors if enough interest is shown in them. Perhaps these new colors will entice some of the younger breeders who have such a difficult challenge in competing in the tougher White classes. Some of the appeal of the Modenas lies in their great variety of colors and classes. This gives many breeders a chance to win a first place in a small class. After all, there can be only one winner in a class of 100 whites while there can be several in smaller classes. In my opinion, we lose more new breeders because of their failure to place in shows than any other reason.

The district show calendar is rapidly nearing completion, and at present lines up as follows:

- 1st District — Unknown.
- 2nd District — Nov. 12-14, Highland, Illinois.
- 3rd District — Early November, Greenville, S.C.
- 4th District — Oct. 23-25, Dallas, Texas.
- 5th District — Dec. 11-13, Pleason-

6th District A.K.C. Show Held in Honolulu

By JACK RAGLE, Villa Grande, Calif.

It was my good fortune to be invited to judge this show, held with Hawaii Pigeon Association all-breed show. Bill Rice of Los Angeles judged all breeds other than Kings. He is very popular with the Fanciers over there.

It is beautiful in Hawaii in December. It may sometimes rain but who cares if it rains in Hawaii. That is why the flowers are so exquisite and the vegetation so green and lush. In writing of Hawaii, Mark Twain once wrote, "the most beautiful fleet of islands anchored in any ocean." Hawaii was born of the sea. Ages ago the first island started emerging from the ocean floor. Being of volcanic origin, even today the big Island of Hawaii offers quite an attraction to the tourists when the volcanos become active.

My first trip to Hawaii was in 1948 and since that time, I understand the flow of the lava that has reached the ocean has increased the area of the Island by two to four acres. If this should continue for the next few million years Hawaii might yet become part of the mainland. (Especially if California had slid into the ocean in 1969 as predicted by some radicals.) Personally I prefer to go to Hawaii by jet rather than by freeway.

In an article written by Phil Van-Norman and published in the King Kourier Jan. 1948 he told of the first show held following "Pearl Harbor." He was the judge and in his write-up

ton, California.

6th District — Unknown.

7th District — Unknown.

"King Kapers"

The Southwest King Club Texas Futurity Secretary, Walker Graham, has reported a total registration of 522 birds with 420 Whites, 53 Silvers, and 49 Blues. The 5th District was well represented with VanNorman, Ragle, and Robertson entering birds. The Louisiana King breeders have organized a new King Club and have given it the name "Sportsman King Club". Charter members are Joe Calloura, John Allee, Lloyd Moreau, Harry Butaud, and Percy Alleman. With a large importation of Freitas' bloodline, we look for some fine birds to be raised in this area in the coming year.

The 7th District show will either go to New Ulm at the Brown County Youth Coliseum on November 19-22 or Watertown, Wisconsin. Members of the 7th District will vote on the two locations soon.

Help!

In a few weeks all American King Club members will be getting an information sheet for the American Pigeon Journal Special edition on Kings. We want to know who will write articles, donate pictures, and subscribe advertising. We earnestly solicit your cooperation in this great project for we think it will greatly publicize our breed. Thank you for your attention to this important project.

he spoke of the fine show and the wonderful people and described the beauties of the Islands. This show and all the annual shows since that time have been held in the spacious back yard at Eddie Rowold's home. Due to some very serious setbacks health-wise the past two years the show this time was held in a large gymnasium on Kaimuki Ave. to make it easier for Eddie. He has spent a great deal of time in the hospital the past two years. Thanks to a strong constitution, good Doctors and Providence he is now much improved and able to spend time each day with his orchids and pigeons. He is indeed fortunate to have with him his nephew, Henry Gehring and wife Peggy. In addition to their busy schedule they have found time to care for the pigeons and orchids during his illness. To know this trio is to love them. They are wonderful people.

Now to the show report. I made my reservation to leave San Francisco Thursday Dec. 4th, via United Air Lines, arrival in Honolulu at 7:20 p.m., about 5¼ hours flight time. We arrived a few minutes ahead of schedule. That is less than half the time it took in 1948. The thrill was just as great as the first landing. To my surprise when I stepped through the terminal gates there was Eddie Rowold to greet me. I didn't know he was sufficiently recovered to get out like this. Along with him were Henry and Peggy Gehring, Danny and Sarah

Gonzalez, Albert and Agnes Souza, Harold Edwards, Alvin Lee, H. Endo, Luther Yam. Allan Kamatsu and Ronald Pace. (In my excitement I failed to make a note of those present so if I missed anybody please forgive me.)

After picking up my baggage, Eddie, Henry and Peggy and I headed for their home. A few minutes after our arrival Danny and Sarah drove up and we talked of past events and Eddie stayed right with us until midnight. Next morning we were up early looking over the orchids and pigeons. He still has quite a number of fancy birds in addition to the Kings. I think I am correct in saying that this was the first show in many years that Eddie has missed having a long string of birds in the show. His filled trophy cabinets are proof of this.

At 8:30 Saturday morning Pres. Alvin Lee came by and took us to the showroom. The members, as usual had a fine show setup. While not as large in numbers as some past shows the quality was certainly there and compared favorably with the District shows on the Mainland.

Champion King of the show was an old white cock belonging to Danny Gonzalez. He was a nicely balanced bird, real good head and short heavy beak, full neck and nice feather finish. I learned this bird was 1st yearling cock at the 1968 show, Rip Schroeder judging. 2nd in this class to H. Endo, 3rd Dr. Seto, all very good birds. Old white hens — 1st Dr. Seto, 2nd H. Endo, 3rd Harold Edwards. Again all three outstanding birds. Yearling white cocks — 1st Dr. Seto, 2nd H. Endo, 3rd Harold Edwards. Yearling white hens, 1st Dr. Seto, 2nd D. Gonzalez, 3rd Harold Edwards. Young white hens. This class was very good, 1st D. Gonzalez, 2nd A. Bisho, 3rd Dr. Seto, 4th Harold Edwards. Look out for this first young hen next year, good all over with perfect show manners. Young white cocks. A good class. 1st H. Endo, 2nd Albert Bisho, 3rd Max Souza, 4th Alvin Lee.

The Silver classes were down in number as compared to past shows. There have not been enough new breeders to replace all the old timers that have dropped out, such as Frank Akina, Eddie Rowold, Gus Gomes, George Takita, Jimmy Whan, Dr. Choy, Danny Tom plus several other good Silver breeders of the past. The Silver placements are: Old Cocks, 1st Dr. Seto, 2nd Albert Souza. Old Hens, 1st Alvin Lee. Yearling Cocks, 1st Luther Yam. Yearling hens, 1st and 2nd Dr. Seto, 3rd Max Souza. Young cocks, 1st Albert Souza, 2nd and 3rd Adolph DeJesus. Young hens, 1st Max Souza, 2nd Albert Bisho, 3rd Albert Souza. The champion Silver was the yearling hen, belonging to Dr. Seto. This hen was an outstanding bird and one to be proud of.

Blue Old Cocks, 1st Ronald Pace, 2nd H. Endo, 3rd Dr. Seto. Old Hens, 1st and 2nd H. Endo, 3rd Luther Yam. Young cocks, 1st, 2nd, 3rd all to H. Endo. Young hens, 1st Dr. Seto, 2nd Ronald Pace, 3rd Alvin Lee.

This completes the list of the top winners in all classes. I understand there are a few Blacks in the 6th District and will soon be appearing in the

showroom. Some of you old timers will remember that "Pop Miller" had the finest Blacks to be found anywhere prior to his untimely death in an automobile accident while on vacation in Ohio prior to the 2nd war.

After the judging was completed about 4 p.m. everybody went home and prepared to attend a nine course Chinese dinner that evening at the Seven Seas Restaurant. I do not know the number in attendance, but the large banquet room was filled to capacity and a few additional chairs were added. If anybody went home hungry it was because they talked when they should have been eating. When you eat some of everything at a nine course dinner you know you have been to dinner. After a few speeches, the many trophies were presented to the winners. This is always the high-light of the evening and a just reward to those who have worked so hard to achieve this honor.

Following the banquet I went with Albert and Agnes Souza to their nice home high above and overlooking Pearl Harbor. The next morning after a delicious Hawaiian breakfast we set out on a tour of the coast and to observe the damage that the big tidal waves had done a couple of weeks before. The big waves 40 to 50 feet high rolled in destroying eighty homes and causing havoc in general. When we were there workmen already had things pretty well cleared away, but there were great hills of sand that the bulldozers had piled up and the rubble of the wrecked homes. Agnes had packed a lunch and after stopping at a roadside park to eat, we continued on and stopped for a visit with Jimmy Whan. Due to his misfortune, Jimmy has been confined to a wheel chair for several years but was just as cheerful as ever and really looked better than he did the last time I saw him three years ago. Again we were on our way and soon going through the Pali tunnel and back into Honolulu and Eddie Rowolds.

Danny Gonzalez had made arrangements for us to visit friends on Maui, Monday. He and Sarah came by and picked me up 6:45 p.m. On the way to the airport Sarah was driving and she had the radio turned on. Just at seven o'clock she told us to be quiet and then a voice came over the radio saying, "Aloha to the Happy Hawaiian of the day, Judge Jack Ragle of Villa Grande, Calif." Then another voice, said, "Here comes the Judge." Sarah is a Supervisor with Radio station KCCN and arranges this daily program naming someone each day. She said it would be on the air each hour throughout the day. This is the only station on the Islands featuring Hawaiian music exclusively.

Danny and I left on schedule at 7:30, and 35 minutes later we were in Lahaina and greeted by K. S. Hew. Then started a most enjoyable day. First we drove to his home in Wailuku. He has a beautiful place here and after looking over his good Kings, we continued on about 5 miles to Kahului where he has a very modern super market and shopping center. He is a C.P.A. also and has his office here in the Market. Here we met the lovely Mrs. Hew and others of the Market

staff.

In the short time we had we could see only a small part of the many places to see on Maui. You can name your favorite pastime and find it here. One has to see to believe. When opportunity presents don't fail to visit Iao Valley State Park, the Kula district with its cattle ranches with real Hawaiian cowboys and all the beautiful flowers. Lahaina, where we landed is about 12 miles from Mr. Hew's home. This town was the first Capital of the Islands and it was here where the whaling ships of that era wintered. Those of you who have read James Mitchner's book "Hawaii" know of those early days as described in the book. We saw the old coral building on the campus of Lahainaluna School, that housed the first newspaper published in the Islands.

Mr. Hew got us back to the airport in time to catch the 5:15 plane back to Honolulu. En route we stopped on the Islands of Lahaina and Molokai and then back to Oahu, making four islands visited in one day. That is what you might call a flying trip. Sarah was at the airport to greet us when we arrived back in Honolulu. After stopping for dinner we headed back to the Rowold-Gehring headquarters.

Tuesday 2:25 p.m. was Mainland departure time via Western Airlines to Oakland. After checking my luggage and all the pineapples, Papaya, plus all the beautiful gifts such as aloha shirts, folding patio lanterns, candy, macadamia nuts and other goodies and with leis around my neck, I regretfully said Aloha.

Near the half way point between Honolulu and Oakland the Captain announced that we were flying at an altitude of 39,000 feet, with a 75 mile per hour tail wind, speed 772 miles per hour, the outside temperature minus 85 degrees, but nice and cozy inside. Flight time to Oakland was under 4½ hours. Even though we arrived early Hepsey and our daughter JoAnn and family were there to greet me, sans leis. After stopping at JoAnn's home in Richmond for awhile we continued on to Villa Grande.

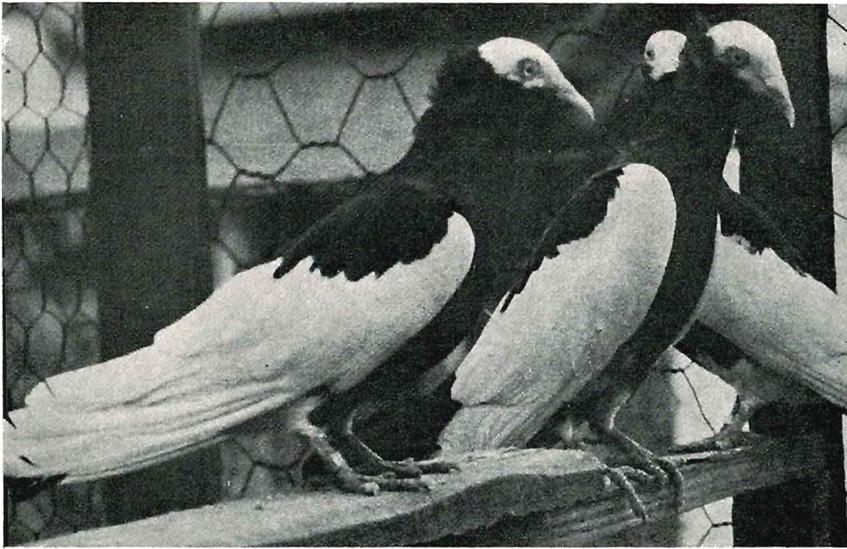
Next morning we were up early as I only had this one day to clean up my birds for the 5th Dist. show at Pomona. So early Thursday we were again on the road heading out on a 500 mile trip to Pomona via Costa Mesa. But that is another story.

National Performing Roller Club

By RUSS KEULING, West Babylon, N.Y.

Roller fanciers in several parts of the country have been active in preparing the formation of a new National Roller Club. The primary function of this club will be to foster competition in the air, and not the showroom. This club will attempt to place the accent on flying, with contests featuring old, young, and mixed bird spinning kits. Of special interest will be the encouragement of the mobile and portable loft type of flying, although the club will also sponsor stationary flying.

For information contact: Russell H. Keuling, 209 11th Street, West Babylon, N.Y., 11704, or Louis F. Riley Jr., Box No. 51, Ovid, New York, 14521.



The Heart Shaped Round Flyers of Sombor, Yugoslavia

Here are three of the Heart Shaped Round Flyers of Sombor, Yugoslavia, described by Rudolf Cirkli in his article. — Photo from Rudolf Cirkli, Sombor, Yugoslavia.

The Pigeon of Sombor, Yugoslavia

By RUDOLF CIRKLI, Sombor, Yugoslavia

Sombor is a city in Yugoslavia known for her pigeon raisers and mostly for her only Yugoslav breed, called "The Round Flyer of Sombor", with long beak. In every case this breed did not have the same look when it arrived at Sombor as it has it today. In the course of many years the assiduous and devoted breeders created this breed in its present shape.

Pigeonry at Sombor began with the arrival of the Turks in 1541 who brought the pigeons with them, and in this town they cared especially about pigeon raising. A Turk traveler wrote at that time having spent some days in 1666 in Sombor, by the name of Evlija Celebi. In his description he said: "Sombor is a rich town full of grassy fields and beautiful gardens in which coo small and beautiful birds (motley), pigeons, and the Effendi laying on their backs with tobacco and black coffee consider their acrobatics and their climbing in greater and greater heights, until they become only black dots".

After the retreat of the Turks in 1687, they left the pigeons here and the citizens of Sombor, like others in Pannonia, began to raise them and in the course of years they made from the Turk pigeon a new breed called "The Heart Shaped Round Flyer Of Sombor". In the twentieth year of our century, a German expert described the breeds of Europe and among them our breed, but under the name "Round Flyer of Batschka", because he did not know the story of this pigeon and because he saw this breed in another town of Batschka. Unfortunately, this incorrect name is today used in several books and publications in the world. We do now hastily prepare the evidence about the story of this breed and with them we will go to the European Union of Pigeonry

with the demand to acknowledge her right name and to give it back. The association in Sombor with its members make all efforts to make the world acquainted with this only breed of Yugoslavia, and particularly of Sombor, and our club is improving this breed and to raise and develop them better.

The pigeon of Sombor is very esteemed in all lands of Europe and we export only to Germany hundreds of excellent birds. Their price is high enough and for ideal ones it reaches a great sum. The price in some cases is

higher than that of a cow.

Description Round Flyers of Sombor

It is of medium size. The head is white with colored cap and on the wings with colored feathers in the shape of a regular heart from which it is called "heart shaped" (Herzli). A long beak is its special character and it makes with the head till the top of the beak, a long triangle.

The eyes are white and it flies in big flocks of 150 or more in the form of clew and speedy and swift circles and often in very bold loopings that the raisers consider with breathtaking astonishment and no one pigeon leaves the flock. This pigeon also flies very high and often it is not possible to follow them. After 2-3-4 hours they return and set themselves on the roof of their possessor. In every flock there is a leader pigeon, which takes off first and guides the others. This pigeon breed is very much devoted to flying, so there are flocks, it is said that have taken off late in afternoon and they circled the whole night till morning in the sky. Some were attacked by storms and thunder and the flocks often partially destroyed, or some pigeons perished from fatigue. About the flocks of some flocks of older breeders there exists many legends.

There are today breeders in Sombor who have for 50-80 years raised this breed of pigeons, and in many cases the parents were breeders. I will mention here some best known of the older breeders such as: Franja Rajzner, Stephen Sel, the family of Lazar, George Antic and many others. After the war, in the last 20 years, the number of breeders became smaller. However, a young breeder appeared who assembled the breeders in a section for positive labour and he has many contributed to the forming of the Sombor Pigeon Club and this breeder is Milan Lugumerski. He succeeded to win also many new members for the association.

The First International Roller Kit Competition

By HANS ROETTENBACHER, Boulder, Colo.

The Canadians, through Lloyd Thompson, had challenged the Americans to a kit competition. And the Americans accepted. I had to see it.

Ever since I discovered that the Cooper residence in Kelso, Washington, was the place to be when seafood goodies, to which I am very partial, were being served, I have been a pretty steady boarder there. Between Carol's seafood extravaganzas, Bruce and I visit the flying Roller enthusiasts. The Portland area has Bill Schreiber, whose loft and patio become Roller headquarters for the Northwest every Monday night all year; Gus Lichtenwald with his personal and distinctive strain of American Tumblers; Karl Krebs; Jim Nickila; Norman Brill; Mel Doyle, and Ed Larm and Ken Dozier near Camas. Washington has Joe Houghton (APJ cartoonist) in Vancouver, Bruce Cooper in Kelso, Billy Kamp in Longview, Eldon Buker in Castle Rock, and Elmer Davis in Tacoma. In British Columbia we have the oldtimer, Lloyd Thomp-

son, whose place is a haven not only for Rollers but for a variety of exotic birds. He lives in Burnaby. Then there is Bill Robinson in Richmond, Tom and Cindy Poole in Vancouver, Monty Neibel also in Vancouver, and Gary Anderson, the youngest of the Canadian fliers, on the outskirts. It takes days to make those visits. I remember the first time I ever visited Bruce, he had a kit of 70 young birds doing full turns in June, of all things!

The Canadians were scheduled to fly the week-end of October 18-19. So I arrived in Portland the evening of October 16. Bruce met me as usual and after our customary libation, or "bump" as our Canadian friends call it, we drove to Bill Schreiber's to put the heat on him about the trip to Canada. Billy Kamp was also coming along and we were to pick up Elmer Davis in Tacoma on our way north.

Bill Schreiber, Billy Kamp, Bruce Cooper and I, with Bruce driving, left Kelso right on schedule in light fog and headed north on an excellent

highway. By the time we reached Elmer's in Tacoma the sky was clear. We had refreshments and Elmer flew his fun kit. An! Cooper pinched one out of it. The rest of the trip into Canada was punctuated with laughter. After we crossed the border we headed for Burnaby but this time we took one of Elmer's short cuts rather than our usual route and, you guessed it, it took longer to get to Thompson's. Once there, we got squared away on accommodations and then joined the party already in progress at Vern Davidson's. Vern had just moved into a fine new home and his new loft, complete with all imaginable conveniences, was still under construction. The fly was to begin about nine the next morning.

Before getting on with the first day of competition, I should pause and explain the pertinent parts of the rules. The fly was to be judged under the rules of the Northwest Birmingham Roller Club (the flying NBRCC). Those rules state that a kit shall consist of at least 20 birds and that 100 points will be deducted from the total score for each bird less than 20 flown. (Under 20 you have a handful, not a kit.). The other penalties are: a 500 point deduction if one bird comes down early and kit disqualification if more than one bird comes down early. Obviously, more than the birds are being graded. A kit can score while a bird is out if that bird is out as a consequence of a deep roll and if the bird is trying to return to the kit. A kit cannot score during the time a bird is out if that bird is not heading for and trying to return to the kit. Lots of good performance goes un-scored because some bird is flying away from the kit. The scoring gives 100 points for a full turn (All birds rolling simultaneously or within a few seconds of each other so that the first birds to begin spinning are still in action when the last ones to start turn it on.), 75 points for a three-quarter turn, and 50 points for a half turn. A quarter turn is not scored. This does not mean that a half turn is half as good as a full turn, it is merely a scoring convenience.

Each competitor has two minutes within which to get his kit up. At the end of the two minutes the competition timing of 15 minutes begins. The kit then has 15 minutes to do its thing. If it just flies around for the first 15 minutes and then begins to pour it on in the 16th minute, that's too bad. It scores zero. All participants score each kit except their own. The scores are averaged at the end of the day's competition. That effectively attenuates prejudice, inexperience, poor eyesight, and goofing off. Now we go.

The fly began at Lloyd Thompson's about nine in the morning. The sky was gray and a light drizzle was falling. That didn't bother the birds, just those of us wearing glasses. Just two months before the fly, on August 20 or 21, we had seen Lloyd's kit work. There was no room for improvement at that time. Now Lloyd put up 20 deep Rollers again. When Lloyd's birds kick off a full turn and just keep on coming and keep on coming, the hair on the back of your neck

stands up. And that's what it's all about! He doesn't keep a holdover kit and no one wonders why not. But this day a few persisted in flying and performing below the kit, thus keeping it from scoring. The rest of the kit was really setting the air on fire. But it could not be counted. I had never seen birds out of the kit at Lloyd's before. They picked competition day to drop out, naturally.

After Lloyd's we went to Gary Anderson's. Gary, who is barely in his teens, put up a kit of 20 birds a few minutes after ten in the morning. It was drizzling a bit harder by then. Gary's birds started right off flying fast, almost like Racing Homers, and they didn't settle down to performing during the 15 minutes allowed. So, he got no score. We left Gary's and headed for Bill Robinson's.

I have seen excellent kits at Bill's before and he put up a good one this time. But he got zonked because one bird, a last minute substitute, landed 10 minutes into the fly and another substitute was out of the kit enough to keep the kit from scoring much. The light rain continued to fall.

We got to Monte Neibel's around noon and it was still raining. It is difficult for Monte's birds to see the sky when they come out of the coop because of the jumble of wires and clothes lines above the coop. Somehow they threaded their way through all those obstacles, formed a kit of 20, and settled down to work. They scored 700 points in the first eight minutes. Then they drifted off southeast and out of sight. That kit would have piled up a lot more points if it had stayed in sight. But you can't score them if you can't see them.

About an hour later, still in the rain, we were at the Poole's. The whole family is hooked on Rollers but Tom and his daughter, Cindy, manage the birds. In priming the birds for the contest, they had had an overfly the evening before. The kit had been out all night. So they went into the competition with the birds that had drifted back during the morning of the contest plus some subs which had not been flying regularly. Nevertheless, the birds put on an impressive show, considering what half of them had just been through. We noted a significant improvement over the kits the Pooles had been flying a few years ago. But one of the substitutes landed on a neighbor's TV antenna and botched the day for the Poole family.

When the competition ended that day, Monte Neibel had won the Canadian leg of the contest. Congratulations to Monte!

The Americans, with Billy Kamp driving because the rest of us were too relaxed, headed south discussing the bad breaks everyone had had and speculating about what might have been if. Everyone realized that 700 was not a very high score. Monte could have beaten it easily himself if his birds had not drifted off. And so it goes with these flippin' Rollers.

After some more loafing at Bruce's in Kelso, I returned to Boulder to await the American leg of the contest, scheduled for November 1 and 2.

The end of October saw me boarding at the Coopers' again where Carol

set a new record for seafood goodies and I over-ate again.

Bill Robinson, Gary Anderson, Monte Neibel, and Lloyd Thompson came down from Canada for the event.

We started at Jim Nickila's about ten in the morning because we got lost getting there again. It was very windy. Jim was at work so Bill Schreiber flew the 20-bird kit. We had a chance to see some very deep performers but almost immediately after liberation the wind had blown the birds out of sight. They remained out of sight for most of the 15 minute scoring period. It was no day for flying Rollers in the Portland area.

An hour later we were at Brill's. Norm lives in the Siberia of Portland. It is always colder and windier there than in any other part of the area. We found some shelter from the wind behind a high board fence and Norm took care of the inner man by passing around hot coffee. He then put up a kit of 38 birds. And a guest of wind punched them through a tree and slammed them against a house. It's a wonder that cripples weren't scattered all over the ground. I would never even let Racing Homers out in wind like that. The minute a Roller turns over it becomes very vulnerable in high winds. I know because I come from a place where the jet stream comes to earth and 100 mph winds are commonplace during winter. But the wind at Brill's was too much. It tore the kit to shreds. He is probably still waiting for birds to walk home.

At noon we were at Melvin Doyle's and that great ocean of air was still moving east at high speed. Mel put up a kit of 20. We barely had a chance to see that it was a good kit before the wind got hold of it and whipped it out of sight for the duration of the timing. 17 birds were still missing after nightfall.

An hour later we were at Karl Krebs'. He put up a kit of 28 but one bird was out of the kit a lot of the time and really cost him points. I saw at least two full turns but, all in all, it was the most conservative kit I have ever seen Karl put up. Karl did not have so much wind at his place but the kit was out of sight on occasion.

The wind at Ken Dozier's in Camas was as bad as it had been at Brill's Siberia. But he insisted upon putting his 22-bird kit in the air. It got blown away right away. Every now and then we'd catch a glimpse of it and we could see that all birds were working well but we could not see whether or not all birds were there. Time ran out while the birds were out of sight.

The next competitor was to be Bruce Cooper. His place was about 50 miles to the north of Ken's and during the long ride, we discussed what had been happening. So far, every one of the Americans had bombed out. None had yet passed Monte's score of 700. Now Bruce was the only one left and it was all up to him. You could almost smell the tension. I wasn't worried. I had been to Bruce's in August and on several more days in October and I

(Continued on page 383.)

The Pigeon Fancy in Great Britain

By **GEORGE A. DRAKE**, Braunton, Devon, England

A very long cold spell since Christmas has considerably delayed the breeding season. In fact everything appears to be well behind schedule. A farmer friend was lamenting to me recently how late he was in getting in the Spring crops, and even the lambing season was well behind schedule. This is remarkable really as the ewes are mated during the latter part of the Summer and the lambs begin to come along about Christmas-time onwards. Yet this year they were very late. Maybe it is nature taking a hand in things.

The few breeding results which have been reported to me so far are not very exciting. One or two who live in warmer parts, or employ artificial heating have a few youngsters to speak about, but the usual run who, like myself, prefer to rely on natural methods have had mixed results. Clear eggs and the stock performing their incubation duties differently have been the main bug-bear. The cold weather plus biting winds are largely responsible no doubt. With the advent of warmer more seasonal weather let's hope the next round will be more fruitful.

Speaking of my own birds, I have found that the larger breeds, e.g. Cauchois and Scandaroons have done satisfactorily. It is among the smaller breeds which I have drawn a blank in several instances.

The arrival of schedules for the early Summer Shows heralds the opening of yet another show season. The big agricultural run around begins with the Devon County at Exeter in mid May. Then we have them weekly right up to September in all parts of the British Isles. This presents an unique opportunity to parade our wares before masses of the public who normally would never dream of going near a pigeon show. These great attractions are visited by many thousands of spectators and most of them manage to get round to visiting the poultry and pigeon marquee.

Show venues for the Autumn and Winter shows which of course are staged indoors are getting to be a problem. With the reduction in the Armed Forces many Army Drill Halls are surplus and are being sold off. These proved near ideal halls in which to stage a small livestock show. In great cities, such as London, the hire charges for suitable halls is becoming so uneconomic that a move has been made among a body of dog breeders to erect a Centre of their own. Dog shows, too, have found suitable venues a problem. Not only by scarcity but the prices charged for hire of the few which are suitable. So a body has been set up to pursue the acquisition of some suitable land outside London, but near the metropolis and of easy access, on which to erect a Centre. The land has been obtained, and provided planning permission is granted, the project appears to be on its way to fruition. The reason I am mentioning this is, that the promoters hope that the premises,

which will be suitably designed and laid out to cater for exhibitions, etc, will be used by fanciers of other sections of livestock than dogs. Therefore, it will be available for pigeon shows, and, presumably, at an economic charge which the average pigeon show is able to pay. Once the Centre which is envisaged near London is off the ground, it is hoped to build one or two more Centres in other parts, say one in the Midlands and one in the North so as to cater for requirements in those areas.

Problems Due to a City Ordinance

By **STANLEY C. GENTZ, JR.**, National City, Calif.

My son, Richard and I have been raising pigeons since late 1966. We have a neighbor who objects to my son and me raising pigeons. He is the cause of most of my problems, as he is continually complaining to the City of National City to take action against our pigeons.

About a year ago my neighbor complained to me that I would have to take action in ridding of my "dirty birds". He said that the pigeons were causing him to have mice. I gave him some self-baited mouse traps and rat and mouse poison, which he took. I also offered to have a pest control concern come to his home to rid him of the mice. He refused this. He told me that if the traps and poison did not work that I would have to get rid of the pigeons. I told him that we did not intend to give up our birds.

The next thing I knew a County Health Inspector came to my home and inspected our lofts. He stated that as far as health and cleanliness were concerned there was no problem and he was very impressed. He said that it was clean and free from offensive order, the only thing wrong was that I was raising some of the birds too close to my own residence and that there was more than the required 25 birds that the city ordinance allowed. The inspector recommended that I build a loft in the vacant lot next door to my residence which also belongs to my family and me. The inspector informed me that the city ordinance would allow me to keep 25 birds for each 5000 square feet of land and they must be kept 25 feet from any residence and that the lofts must be kept clean. (At this time we had about 30 birds).

I proceeded to build the loft in the lot. It was my intent to build against the fence to save on time and material. When I was about half way through my project a City Building Inspector visited me and ordered me to stop. He told me that I could not build against the fence and that I would need a Building Permit to build anything of the size I was building the loft. He also said that to obtain a permit I would have to submit a request to build and specify the intended use of the building and also the material that I was intending to use.

Our last classic show of the season just ended was at Reading, and this was the best which this Society has yet staged. Harry Wheeler and his friends did a truly great job. The only snag now is that the show has grown to such proportions that there are insufficient local fanciers to undertake the work entailed in staging such a show. So, for the next event some more help from outside will have to be found. Reading has proved itself, it has the goodwill, given the practical help it will be right at the top of the league for classic events. A most reassuring and pleasing bit of news was that it was a success financially, too.

I also had to list the length, width, height, and distance from property lines and existing buildings, and the size of the lot.

All this was done with a few minor changes recommended by the City Building Department. I was issued the permit costing me \$6.50. The new loft was estimated to cost me \$650. It was agreed that now I would be legally able to keep 75 birds. I built the major part of the loft exactly as the permit specified. I brought my amount of birds up to about two-thirds (about 50 birds) I was permitted to keep. Most of these birds were expensive Show Kings obtained from Don Roland, John Schroeder, and George Duero. Some of these Kings have cost me up to \$25 a piece. My son, Richard, has obtained some very good Rollers and they were not cheap.

Now with selective breeding, choice feeding and almost all of our free time, we have some Champions.

This October 1969 we started to have problems with the city once more, a Building Inspector came to my residence and checked the birds. I was not home at the time, my older son, Stanley, was home. The inspector stated that we are now violating a city ordinance by keeping more than 25 birds. The inspector said that I would have to appear before the City Planning Commission because of the violation, and that if I intended to keep more birds, then the city ordinance required I would have to submit a request to the City Planning Commission and present it to them at the same time I appear for the violation, also that I should get the majority of my neighbors to sign a statement that they do not object to us keeping the pigeons. I did this and also appealed to other pigeon fanciers and friends to write letters to either the City Mayor or the City Planning Commission on my behalf. At least ten or twelve of them filled out my request.

I appeared before the City Planning Commission on the 24th of November. My complaining neighbor made a statement at the hearing and complained about the mice and made an objection to us keeping the pigeons. He also had two friends that live more than three or four blocks from us to register complaints about wild

birds that sit on utility lines and mess upon their cars. I was then given an opportunity to defend myself. I told the Planning Commission that I gave the neighbor the pesticides and traps and offered to have a Pest Control Company to come rid him of his mice.

I also explained to the Commission Board that I could prove to them that I kept poison and fresh baited traps set out at all times, and that on an occasion I do catch an adult mouse. I also told the Commission that I could prove the wild birds were not curs and that my birds do not fly with these birds and the wild birds do not come around my birds.

I was found to be in violation of keeping a greater number of birds than the city ordinance allows. (I told the Commission Board that we had approximately 80 birds, including babies just out of the shell). I was ordered to eliminate all birds over 25 within 90 days. My request to keep

more than 25 birds was not voted on, reason being that I was already found in violation of keeping 25 birds.

I am now asking for help in any form, be it physical, or advice. I am willing to pay for legal assistance if I can obtain an attorney that is willing to help me and has knowledge of this type of problem and feels sure that he or she can get justice for me either in a permit to keep our birds or at least to get some compensation for all that I stand to and am forced to lose.

I have duplicate letters written to the Mayor requesting that he intervene on my behalf. I also have letters written to the City Planning Commission on my behalf. I have more information if anyone is able to help me in this matter.

Note by Editor. — Persons desiring to write Mr. Gentz should address letters to him at 1112 East 1st St., National City, Calif., 92050.

Unfair Pigeon Ordinances a Real Problem

By JOHN J. GALLAGHER, North Bergen, N.J.

As a breeder and fancier of pigeons, I foresee a big problem. Some of you may have been faced with it or will be in the future. The problem is the unfair pigeon ordinances that have been passed and are being passed even in the suburbs.

I live in the city in an off-beat section, so I don't have any trouble keeping my birds, but I doubt if it will stay that way for long. I never cared much about city ordinances since they never bothered me. I always figured I would move to the suburbs or the country in the future and would have no trouble keeping my birds.

My wife and I were looking at property in Sussex, N.J. last fall. While we were in the real estate office looking at a map of 1-acre plots I asked the lady if there were any ordinances against pigeons. "Certainly," replied the lady. "There is an ordinance against pigs and pigeons."

We left the real estate office after a few friendly words with the lady without buying the property, of course. That was when I first realized we need help to get these unjust pigeon ordinances changed.

Most pigeon ordinances have been passed by people or politicians that knew nothing about the Fancy or hobby. They could never have known the good or pleasure derived from the hobby for young and old or they would never have passed ordinances like they did.

I am a member of the Garden State Variety Pigeon Club but I know no individual or one small club can do much about changing any of those ordinances.

However, I am writing this article with the hope that some politician that understands our problem and knows the pleasure and good that comes from keeping and breeding pigeons or some large club will take on the task.

I am sure if all the pigeon clubs in the U.S.A. got up a signed petition it would be 100 per cent. Then, someone or some club might have a chance

in Washington to get all the towns or cities to change the ordinances.

In times like today with people young and old, revolting against what they think is wrong and unjust, it is typical and American, and it isn't asking too much for pigeon men and fanciers to want to save and preserve a good sport for our next generation.

Every town and city could still keep ordinances to protect them from people that would abuse the ordinances by creating a health hazard. A man should be allowed to house and breed pigeons on his property, or with owner's permission as long as he keeps a sanitary loft and creates no health problems. He should not have to worry about a neighbor holding an axe over his head because he has birds.

The flying of pigeons should be regulated according to the area or neighborhood. If a man has a problem about flying his pigeons or letting them annoy his neighbor he should not be told to get rid of them; just keep them penned up.

Most pigeon men would understand if they had to keep their birds caged. Many breeders keep their birds caged and under lock and key and would not even consider leaving their birds out to fly.

For the man that enjoys racing or flying, he should be allowed to train and fly his birds as long as they don't bum on neighbors houses. Most pigeon men would not let their birds bum anyway.

As I said before, most of those pigeon ordinances had to be passed by people who did not understand the situation. A true pigeon fancier does not want to create trouble with his neighbor nor does he want to have a filthy or unhealthy loft. The way it is going, many will not have a chance to prove this.

I could write on and on but you all know the same stories. Let's hope someone or some big club takes us under their wing and gets the ball rolling.

First Int. Roller Kit Competition

(Continued from page 381.)

had seen that kit work a number of times. It was top hole.

There was no wind by the time we reached Kelso but it was almost 4:30 in the evening and it starts to get dark at that time in November. But he was determined to fly that day. To those of us who expressed some anxiety about the rapidly approaching sundown, Bruce replied that it wouldn't be the first time he had landed that kit in the dark. I found no comfort in that. Neither did the other experienced fliers.

He put up a kit of 21 and they flew beautifully. They sure did. The Canadians had to wait until Sunday morning, when Bruce put them out again, to see that it was really a kit of Rollers, and good ones at that.

So, with a little help from the Portland winds, Monte Neibel from Vancouver, B.C. was declared the winner of the first international Roller kit competition and his name will go into the record books as such. He will also receive the coveted trophy. I wouldn't be surprised if Monte repeated next time without help from any quarter. My pigeon instinct told me that most of the kits in competition had peaked-out just before the flies. Monte's birds were still building.

The Saturday night the competition ended Bruce prepared an appropriate celebration in the lounge of his pigeon palace. In preparation, we had horsed a whole barrel of beer up the stairs and iced it down. Then Bruce spread out an assortment of cheeses, cold cuts and dips. Some of the guests brought fried chicken and Bill Schreiber brought German potato salad. All of the competitors were there plus Joe Houghton and Ed Larm. We had a delightful time late into the night and Bill Robinson told us the tale of the crunch bird, which is something every pigeon fancier's wife should own. An heroic effort was made by a number of us to empty that barrel before the beer got too much older. We had been counting heavily on the usually dependable assistance from Jim Nickila but he had picked that night to promise his wife that he was going to behave. And he kept the promise.

Late Sunday morning, as a direct consequence of Nickila's good behavior, Bruce and I were obliged to carry that half full barrel back down the stairs. Since neither of us cared to look at a beer for some time to come, we delivered it to a mechanic friend of Bruce's who was known to be fond of the stuff. The man was very pleased with the present. But Bruce didn't earn any brownie points with the feller's wife. Women don't seem to understand such things.

When properly executed, as they are by the lads in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia, there is a lot more to flying contests than just watching those flippin' birds.

The 1970 International Contest will see about a dozen American kits in competition. That will take two consecutive days of flying in the States. That. So am I. That makes for an extra day with the Coopers.



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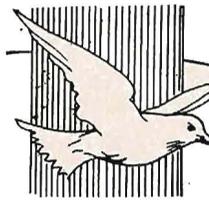
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Racing Homers

News From the American Racing Pigeon Union

By JOHN WIEMELS, Pub. Dir., Lakewood, Ohio

This is election year in the American Racing Pigeon Union. The following is a list of the men who are properly certified for election.

For President—Edward Jankowski, Milwaukee Center 2257 S. 35th Street, Milwaukee, Wis., 53215. A. L. Poeschl, Pittsburgh Center Inc., 215 Dengler Street, Pittsburgh, Pa., 15210.

For 1st V. President — Frank J. Governale, 3314 W. 46th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, Cleveland Center.

For 2nd V. President — William Reybroeck, 1147 Prado Place, Windsor, Ontario, Canada, G. Detroit Center. Edward C. Schmidt, 465 Harrison Street, Elgin, Illinois, N. Illinois Center.

Board of Directors 1974 — Stanley P. Biesadecke, (Cleveland Center) 1480 Broadrock Ct. Parma, Ohio, 44134. LeRoy Dueswell, (G. Milwaukee Center) 4026 W. Orchard Street, Milwaukee, Wis., 53215. Harold Fritsch, (G. Detroit Center) 20339 Parkville Rd., Livonia, Mich., 48152. Charles R. Fullerton, 2020 8th Avenue, N.E. Seattle Washington, 98155. George J. Herman, (G. Detroit Center) 19706 Maxine, St. Clair Shores, Mich., 40480. Robert Middleton, (N. Illinois Center) 110 Alpine Lane, Roselle, Illinois, 60172. Charles H. Tolson, (G. Detroit Center) 2374 Pearl Street, Detroit, Mich., 48209. Edward K. Tatum, (Texas Center) 2710 Cascade Drive, Austin, Texas, 78757.

The above were properly certified by petitions submitted and received by this office prior to March 31, 1970.

Remember fellows, it is the duty of everyone to vote!

Stanley Sejba, our President, was honored at a retirement dinner at

Smith's Restaurant, April 10th. Present were 100 of his former co-workers. Toastmaster, Edward Walker, praised Stanley for his many accomplishments during his 48 years of service with the Penn-Central Railroad. Freight Agents from different stations were also present and they added their words of esteem for Stanley, also. Knowing that Stan was a pigeon fancier the committee asked Mr. and Mrs. John Wiemels, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Governale, and Stanley Adasta to be present, too. To make everyone feel "at home" they had two beautiful Racing Pigeons in the centerpiece on the main table. During the evening Pete Barry, our Secretary, called from Pittsburgh, Pa. to extend his best wishes to Stan.

The Trophy Membership Drive is still moving along well. Those of you who have not as yet gotten any new members for the AU, come on and let's get going!

Have you heard about our planned trip to Hawaii following the Convention in Los Angeles? Spend an enjoyable and relaxing week, visiting three islands. For further information kindly contact Stanley Sejba 7050 Rushwood Lane, Northfield, Ohio, 44067, or John Wiemels, 1235 Ethel Ave., Lakewood, Ohio, 44107. Write for itinerary for this trip. You will be surprised at the low cost. Deadline for reservations is August 15th.

We understand that the Committee for the Convention in L. A. has gone all-out to make it a memorable event. Don't forget to make your reservations with the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California. Dates for the convention are October 15 through 18, 1970.

Vincent D. Snyder Scholarship Fund

By MORRIS COHEN, President

In the May issue of our various pigeon publications we take note that the West Allis Flying Club is planning a Vincent D. Snyder Scholarship Fund Race on August 30th, the date of their 200 mile race. This is so very encouraging, and we thank the members along with their hard working publicity agent, Ed. Jankowski. We will be eagerly watching for the results, and hope that other clubs around the U.S.A. will follow the great example being set for the racing pigeon sport.

If you doubt for a moment the

value of "Dollars for Nurse Scholars", we just heard on a radio report the scandalous crisis in our own U.S. Veterans Administration Hospitals. Many U.S. Veterans are seriously ill, and in one of the worst instances a single nurse had charge of 125 patients. And many, just too many die needlessly, simply because there exists this massive shortage of Registered Nurses, and it seems the pigeon fanciers seem to be the only ones who are seriously concerned. If the general public only realized the tremendous efforts being made by pigeon fan-

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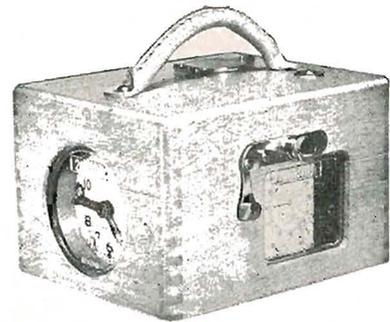
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ciers, there would be a lot less bad publicity against the raising of pigeons. It is the duty of the fanciers to bring to the attention of their friends, and in particular the local press, the efforts of fanciers all over the country who give financial support to the training of Registered Nurses at St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in Philadelphia. Already with the 55 young women aided thus far, we have enough R.N.'s to staff a 200 bed hospital. And there will be another new class enrolled in September, where we will extend maximum aid possible to deserving student nurses.

In England they have an annual auction for the "Spastic", or Polio victims, and in the last pigeon auction, birds donated by pigeon fanciers in Great Britain and other nations brought in \$10,320, and one bird was bid and purchased for \$1,740 being of exceptional championship stock. Louis Massarella of Leicester England donated a pair that brought \$960.

Tom Smith of Mineola, New York has been hard at work, as a go-between for the V.D. Snyder Scholarship Fund, and fanciers in Great Britain. His friend in England, Wally Pope asks pigeon fanciers in the United States to donate 50 really good birds complete with pedigrees for this very important British charity. The birds are needed for the early part of November 1970. We will assemble and ship the birds Air Freight from Philadelphia each bird in a single fiber-board carton, so that all birds will arrive in London in tip-top shape. The British fanciers, at the urging of

Mr. Pope, will send their very best birds to us here to be auctioned for the benefit of the "fund". Wally Pope is going to contact all the National Winners in Great Britain this summer and will send youngsters from the National Winners to us, for the biggest and best auction sale ever held in this country. And for a good cause.

So here is a challenge to the 20,000 fanciers in America! Can we get offers of donation of 50 top flight birds. Either young birds, or flyers with records. All with pedigrees. And we should try to offer typical USA breeds, like the Trentons, or Harry Elstons, or Abilenes, Morris Gordons, etc. Every large center has its typical successful flyer, who has his own "breed", such as John Roberts "RRR". Let us hear from individuals or centers who will please back up our efforts. We are committed, and must not fail! And the publicity of American birds being flown to England for Charity, and English birds coming here will indeed be publicized in special feature articles in the press and wire services. As we shall certainly have professional photographic coverage, we ask the National organizations publicity people to give us hand in this department. We shall be most grateful to the AU and I.F. members for their endorsement, and most of all the 50 good birds who will represent the United States! These birds must be the kind that "are not for sale", so that the British will see we too have good stock.

Since the beginning of the Vincent D. Snyder Scholarship Fund in 1966,
(Continued on page 392.)

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Pete Barry, Sec.-Treas.
 34 S. Bryant Avenue,
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Stanley Sejba, President John S. Wiemels, Pub.
Don't forget the Convention, Oct. 15-19, 1970 at the
Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California

Greater Chicago Center News

By **JAMES A. RUZEK, Berwyn, Ill.**

Extensive plans are being made by the local ladies auxiliary to sponsor another city auction and many of the out of area and local fanciers are donating youngsters which should bring some fancy prices at the West Side Concourse to enhance their convention fund. Al Moncada, Stan Zigman, Jim Brija and Jim Ruzek will take turns at auctioning the birds and we wish them success.

At our regular delegate meeting, the following contributions were made to the officials of their respective organizations, \$200 to the Anti-Cruelty Society, \$200 to Boy Scouts of America, Chicago Area Council and \$100 to the Visual Foundation for Blind. These awards are from our Fund Raising Auction held last year and will be put to good use by the recipients.

A news item which I prepared will be featured in the Life Newspapers servicing the cities of Cicero, Berwyn, Brookfield, Lyons, Stickney and other local communities, outlining the participation of Juniors of high school age in our races, the special features of a pedigreed bird differing from the common variety, sanitation, care, also asking any youths that might be interested to join our group and hope

this will bring some results. This came about as a result of one of the mothers of her sons, who had pigeons and did not know whom to contact or where such clubs were in existence.

A group of local fanciers attended the special auction of imported birds at Detroit last week-end and Gene Lang and Mickey Waido left quite a sizeable bankroll in order to obtain the individual bird each purchased.

Pat Verive, newly elected Secretary of the Maywood Club who built a new garage and a beautiful loft atop it and who has a fine team of birds, was granted a disability pension in 1967 when he suffered a heart attack. Over the years, he was a patient at the Gottlieb Memorial Hospital. Being a patient, he could see the need for someone to help cheer up people who were in pain or distressed. His philosophy is that life is worth living, no matter how bad things are, for someone else has it worse. Although it slowed him down considerably he learned to live with it. Recently Pat decided to join the hospital Volunteer Program and is the first male in that volunteer group. He puts in a full week at the hospital, working from 8:00 a.m. to noon every day except Sunday. He delivers letters and news-

papers to patients and chats with them, also you can bet his favorite subject are the birds. I just received word that Pat suffered another attack and now is confined at Gottlieb for an undetermined stay. We all are pulling for his speedy recovery.

Vic Harris of the South Side Concourse who again was confined to a hospital returned home and is progressing very nicely, after surgery that necessitated severing a nerve to alleviate the pain caused by his lung injury. Get well quick, Vic.

Ed Petrlik of Riverside of the West Side is still confined at the local hospital after complications arose after his hernia operation. Now that things have cleared up considerably and he is feeling much better, it is just a matter of time that he will be able to return home to convalesce.

Bernie Mulligan informs me the Oaklawn Club will meet on the 1st Monday of each month at their new location, the V.F.W. Hall at 79th and State Rd. in Stickney. Newly elected officers are: A. Gruetzmacher, Pres.; R. Keane, V.P.; A. Oleynichak, Race Sec.; Att'y, R. Jurgens, Sec.-Treas, and Tim O'Brien, Sgt. at Arms. Delegates are A. Kaminski and R. Jurgens. Six new members joined their club, however, Uncle Sam has selected Allen Naydol and Len Nelson for service. The club is planning a special program for Sunday, April 12th, to promote interest and enlighten the people in their area about our Sport. Two movies will be shown, "The Pigeon That Created a Miracle" from Disney Industries plus the "Homing Pigeon" after which refreshments will be served. The commander of the VFW Post is co-operating with them and promises a full house with youngsters and their parents. Another bit of publicity was the Oaklawn Club sponsoring Bernie's Bowling team, with Oaklawn Racing Pigeon Club inscribed on their shirts and bowling in a big bowling establishment.

In connection with the California Convention trip, we have planned a special tour to Las Vegas and Honolulu combined from Chicago leaving Sunday October 11th O'Hara via United 271 jet coach arrive Las Vegas gives you two nights at the Stardust Hotel air-conditioned rooms. Late Lido Revue with three cocktails, Stardust Lounge Theatre Show with two cocktails, two meals in new San Marino or Palm Rooms, Minsky's late show at the Aladdin, including tips for baggage in and out of Stardust Hotel. Depart Vegas via United 359 Tues. 10-13 4:40 P.M. arrive Los Angeles 5:38 P.M. You are on your own while in Los Angeles, and make your reservations at the Disneyland Hotel accordingly.

We leave California Monday, Oct. 19th at 9:00 a.m. via United No. 191 and arrive in Honolulu, Oahu, 11:25 a.m. flower lei greeting and board waiting transportation for five nights in the heart of Waikiki at the new Holiday Inn. Incidentally, this is Aloha week, a special treat with carnival spirit, parades, floats, etc. which will make your stay that week most enjoyable. A circle island tour including lunch at Crouching Lion, a Pearl Har-
 (Continued on page 389.)



Questions

... and ANSWERS

By WENDELL M. LEVI, Sumter, S. C.
Author—The Pigeon, Making Pigeons Pay and
Encyclopedia of Pigeon Breeds

Worms In Pigeons

Question. — I raise Kings and Tumblers. My question is this: It seems I just can not keep the worms out of my pigeons. I use — worm medicine. — G. K., Mo.

Answer. — I have your letter and I am sorry you did not answer the questionnaire as, if you had done so, it would have told me many things about you and your pigeon experience that is not contained in your letter.

Really, there's no excuse for anyone having roundworms in their loft and flypen, especially the large roundworm, *Ascaridia columbae*. Please see paragraphs 796-800 inc. "The Pigeon," especially on this largest of the roundworms.

In the event you do not have it convenient, and your library does not have it, I am enclosing herewith a photostat from "Making Pigeon Pay," January, 1968 revision.

I suggest if you do not have a wire-bottomed flypen, that you put one in, and you can use wire such as hardware cloth, sixteen gauge, with 3/4" mesh.

There are many, many medications that will kill the roundworm but, unless the food, grit, and water vessels are protected where they can not be fouled, it does very little good, because they will eat the eggs again.

The latest medications are: Piperazine compound, eight grams to the gallon of drinking water for sixty hours. Even later than Piperazine, and said to be even more effective though we have not used it to my knowledge, is thiabendazole. This has been approved one-half pound per hundred pounds of mash for turkeys. You will have to inquire weight per gallon of water.

As a matter of fact, really the most immediate eliminator that I have ever seen was the one I describe in "The Pigeon" where I had the fairly large squab ranch here in Sumter County to give each bird from one-third to one-half medicine dropper full of turpentine. It was a sight to see the live worms by the hundreds on the floor of the loft and wriggling.

An Internal Infection

Question — I have a very serious problem — that is to say I have 100 or more good French Gros Mondains of — stock. I have lost two hens from what seems to be an internal infection. One hen was valued at better than \$100. Her mouth was yellow inside and I could sense she was having difficulty in eating. The other hen kept getting weaker with slow movements and a distinguishable look in her eyes. I have given these medications: trade name — and sulfa drugs, trade name —. I also no-

ticed some of the feathers had been eaten by mites, lice, or something, so I sprayed both in and outside my pens and mixed a solution of malathion in a gallon bucket and dunked each bird to its neck. All has been in vain and I am kind of sick. I now have a real nice recessive red cock that is acting droopy. I am trying to breed good colors from my Mondains rather than the usual multi-color jobs. I want the size I want too, but I want good standard colors, but if my good birds keep dying I'm losing ground. I am not afraid to spend money I don't have for something if it is any good. I also have a fortune invested in these birds which I couldn't hope to get out of them, but I still do not want to lose any. — J. D., Kans.

Answer. — Your letter postmarked the 5th reached me this morning just as I am leaving to be out of town until Monday. Since your trouble is so serious to you, I am answering immediately, though it has to be a little hurried.

1. You did not answer the questionnaire to be found in every number of the APJ, and without these answers I am handicapped very much, as the answers tell me a lot of things I should know to evaluate a disease at a distance (think of a doctor trying to treat a patient 1,000 miles away that he has never seen).

2. You do not know what your birds have, or at least I think you do not know, and one of the first rules of

Answer These Questions

Lack of sufficient information from the inquirer often makes it very difficult to answer questions fully. In a diagnosis of a disease or similar trouble, it is absolutely essential that complete data be forwarded to me to even attempt satisfactory location of the source of trouble. In writing me, simply put down number of questions and your answer thereto. Be sure to enclose stamped envelope for reply. — Wendell M. Levi.

QUESTIONNAIRE:

1. How many pigeons have you? How many to a pen?
2. How long have you raised pigeons?
3. What feed do you use? Give formula if home mixed.
4. Describe your feeding method.
5. Does feed ever remain on floor of house?
6. Have you checked your food to see that it is neither unseasoned, decayed, molded or swollen from dampness?
7. What grit do you use? How do you feed it? Do you feed it in house or fly pen?
8. How do you water your birds? Describe method. How often is water changed? Do you regularly disinfect drinking vessels?
9. What have you done to attempt a cure of birds concerning which you are inquiring?
10. Have you sent diseased specimen to your State Biological Laboratory for autopsy before inquiring of this department? If not why not?

medication is never to give a medication unless you know that it is a specific (curative) for that particular disease.

3. I use malathion for spraying our *Camellia japonicas*. We do it twice a year. I am quite sure that we have run away many birds from our garden by using it, as they do not like the odor. I suggest that you use the time-tested DDT in either powder or liquid form, or both, which is death to all lice and to most mites. I don't think, however, that the lice by any stretch of the imagination can be causing the malady that your birds may have. I think dunking them in malathion was probably enough to make them sick.

Why do you not take one or two ill specimens that you do not value highly to a biological laboratory at — or near you. There must be some, or send them to your State Agricultural University or College. If perchance you do not know where that is, consult your County Demonstration Agent. It might also be well to consult one or two of the technicians at the hospital with which you are best acquainted.

My advice is to stop everything that you are doing in the way of medications until you find out what is wrong with the birds.

Any particularly valuable specimen that you have in the meantime could be placed in an individual coop out of sight of its pen so it will not worry to get out to its mate and loft, and given food, water, and grit kept fresh, and two vitamin tablets which will help it throw off any disease. Pigeons are naturally healthy, and, given a bit of a chance, will recover from mighty near anything.

I suggest you go to your drug store and buy Brewers' yeast tablets for human beings. Give them every day or every other day a half or a third of a tablet, or even a whole tablet, and at the same time a OO capsule of cod-liver oil a day for a few days. The Brewers' yeast is the most important.

These can not hurt, and you should in two or three weeks, with benefit of assisting their nutrition, see the birds looking much healthier.

I hope you find herein something that is of assistance to you.

Club For Lahores

Question. — I am 14 years old and wonder if you could answer the following question for me. My friend and I want to organize a specialty club for breeding of Lahores. I would appreciate it if you would send us some information on how to start, what members expect of a pigeon club, etc. We would be very grateful for your help. Also, if possible, I would appreciate it if you would print this, as it might gain new members for us, The Central Maryland Lahore Club. Bill Kelly, Pindel School Road, Fulton, Md.

Answer. — I have your letter. Two people can form a club, but many more are advisable.

I think if you will write to Mrs. Doris M. Weber, Secretary, National Pigeon Association, Inc., Box 83, Watertown, Wis., 53094, she has a mimeographed sheet on how to form

(Continued on page 389.)

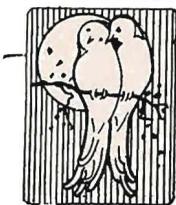


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Organizations

American Pigeon Club Show Goes to Lincoln, Nebr.

By A. L. GRACE, Lackawanna, N.Y.

The American Pigeon Club Show has been voted to go to Lincoln, Nebraska, this coming November 25th to 27th, 1970. We have a very enthusiastic letter from one of the men in charge, Ed Blum. Mr. Blum states that plans are already underway to make this show a major international success! Geographically, Lincoln, Nebraska, is almost centrally located in our country, and but a day's travel by Air Express from all corners of the U.S.A. I do hope here is where the West shall meet the East in good representation.

Here in the very heart of the corn belt region, we shall expect the Pilgrims and their entries from New England. The very best from the pioneers of the Southwest and the vigorous birds from the trail-blazers of Oregon Territory. It would also be expected to see some of the top creations from the cotton growing sections of the deep south, plus I am certain a good number of snow toughened birds from the Arctic regions of our good friends in Canada. Gentlemen where could we find a better cross section of exhibition birds on this Western Hemisphere. We shall also encourage the entries south of the Panama Canal.

It's not always to win that counts, it's being part of a great organization of pigeon fanciers, who appreciate the fleeting moments of good friendship within our hobby.

Ed Blum further states: "We have contracted for the exhibition building at the Lincoln Nebraska Fair Grounds. This building is large enough to coop over 3,000 birds without double checking. It is one of the most modern structures for this purpose, of its kind! The showroom is about a five minute ride from downtown Lincoln."

Also the airport is only ten minute travel time to the pigeon show. There will be a shuttle system from both the airport and bus terminals for the convenience of visiting fanciers and their pigeons.

As to accommodations, the Holiday Inn, the Cornhusker Hotel, Great Western Motel, the Ramada Inn, Clayton Hotel, and the Villager Motel shall have soft candle glow lights and charming background music. All these places of this Mid-Western hospitality are but ten minutes drive to the exhibition Fair Ground showroom.

Besides the friendly atmosphere of the American Pigeon Club, the Lincoln Nebraska Show has received the pledge from such well-known clubs as the American Bald and Beard Club,

Central Tumbler Club, Pacific Tumbler Club, of Pageant fame, Western Tumbler Club, Nebraska State Fancy Pigeon Club and the Muffed Tumbler Club of America.

Mr. Blum also states the Lincoln fanciers are contacting the three national and regional Jacobin Clubs, district Owl and Turbit Organizations, the Eastern and Central Fantail Clubs, and the Komorner Tumbler Club. The Helmet breeders will also be represented in good numbers. The Giant Homer, Show Racer and American Racing Pigeon Clubs should respond in this geographically centered show. The two of the most popular varieties in U.S. and Canada, the Modena and Roller fanciers can always be depended upon to put in a healthy entry.

I would personally like to ask the English and Bokhara breeders to send a few entries to the Lincoln Show. Looks like the birds with the "roll-of-the-drum" voice are gaining great popularity in U.S. and Canada.

I sincerely endorse the idea of the Purina Feed Company of Checkerboard fame to get all the clubs in U.S.A. and Canada to work together. Let us back up each other and grow in strength.

Cash awards will be appropriated by the American Pigeon Club to all variety organizations affiliated with the American Pigeon Club. For more detail contact our club Secretary, Bob Riegel of Bay City, Michigan. Mr. Riegel always is willing to help all he can to encourage the breeding of Fancy Pigeons.

Let us play together and work together, so that the love for pigeons and good friendship of our hobby, shall live for future generations, and that they may know the true meaning of happiness. God Bless!

Down River Fancy Pigeon Club

By WEB KINCADE, Sec., Plymouth, Mich.

The newly elected officers for 1970 for the Down River Pigeon Club are as follows: President, Mal Alexander; Vice-President, Harry Buckenizer; Secretary, Web Kincade; Treasurer, Humphrey Girard; Public Relations Director, Perry Justice; Show Secretary, Pat Donnelly; Assistant Show Secretary, Chris Mercure.

The following dates have been set for our 1970 shows: Young Bird Show, August 2, 1970; Winter Show, December 5 and 6. We are looking forward to a very active year in the club.

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HERBERT K. HERR, Show Sec.

3 Carlisle Court, York, Pa., 17404

Greater Chicago Center News

(Continued from page 386.)

bor Cruise, tips, tax and transfers all included. Hotels will be at a premium, so get your reservations in early. On Saturday we fly on to the large "Orchid Isle", Hawaii famed for its volcanoes and National Park with lunch at the Volcano House and tour of island before heading for home on Sunday, October 25th. With this special rate, one week only including all the above features are offered at \$465.00 per person double occupancy, including air fare round trip to Chicago.

Also for those who desire to spend an additional week and really see the beauty of the outer islands, based on Modified American Plan, via motor-coach, (7 days 6 nights), which includes the Las Vegas trip the rate is \$729.00 per person, double occupancy, in superior rooms and two meals a day with tips included as follows: Mon. 10-19, arrival, for you a lei and a kiss. Transport to Holiday Inn, unpack, relax and get set for the mood for your Island Holiday. Tues. 10-20. At leisure. Free to acquaint yourself with the magical wonder of this world famous vacation resort. Wed. 10-21, Adventuresome All-Day trip of Oahu, upside down falls. Pali, Mormon Temple, Country Club, lunch, etc. Thurs. 10-22 Free day. Enjoy Aloha parade. Swim, sun bathe, have fun. Fri. 10-23. Board yacht for cruise through Pearl Harbor. See sunken battleships, enjoy sweeping view of Honolulu and Pearl Harbor. Transportation back. Sat. 10-24. Another day of leisure. Loft visitation local clubs. Shopping. Sunday 10-25. Transfer to terminal flight to Kauai, to Coco Palms Hotel. Afternoon delightful cruise up the Wailua River, Fern Grotto, Opaekaa Falls, back for dinner and overnight at Coco Palms. Mon. 10-26. After breakfast sightseeing around south and west sides of Kauai, flower bordered highways to magnificent Waimea Canyon, (Grand Canyon of the Pacific), to Lookout Point return via Poipu Beach and Spouting Horn to hotel for dinner and overnight. Tues. Oct. 27. After breakfast transfer to flight to island of Maui. Airport motor to Kula, Mt. Haleakala, Iao Valley to view the "Needle". Afternoon tour to Lahaina, first capital of the Hawaiian Islands, also once a whaling center. See the largest Banyan Tree in the islands, old prison and other points of interest. Overnight and dinner at the Sheraton on beautiful Kaanapali Beach. Wed. 10-28. A free day to enjoy many activities at Kaanapali. Swim in the sparkling waters, 18 hole Royal golf course, canoeing, bask in the sun. Breakfast, dinner and overnight at the Sheraton.

Thurs. 10-29. After breakfast flight to big Island of Hawaii, at Hilo sightseeing, tour of city, visiting Rainbow Falls, orchid nurseries, Liliuokalani Park, see the art of lauhala weaving, on to National Park luncheon Volcano House, view Crater, return to Hilo for flight to Kona. Upon arrival transfer to Keauhou Beach Hotel for dinner and overnight. Fri. 10-30. Day at leisure. Deep sea fishing the best in the world here. Dinner and breakfast included at hotel. Overnight, Keauhou

Beach entertainment. After breakfast, leave beautiful Kona, drive through Kamuela and Parker Ranch to Mauna Kea for lunch, (cost not included) along the Hamakua coastline to Hilo and tour to the West coast. Sat. 10-31. 2:00 P.M. Depart Hilo via United jet, arrive Los Angeles 9:50 P.M. Leave L.A. Sunday, Nov. 1, 12:30 A.M. arrive Chicago O'Hare 6:05 A.M. and Home.

It is to be noted that all tips for baggage in and out of hotels, and all transfers in Hawaii are included as well as air fares from Chicago back to Chicago. For those who wish to fly direct from Chicago to Los Angeles and back without stopovers, the normal rate is \$214.00 but for the convention trip a special rate of \$171. is allowed which is cheaper than the family plan. We have reservations for 80 people available only, at this time, so if you wish to join our group, please specify which plan you want with a one or two week extension, also send a \$50 deposit to guarantee a seat, which will be on a first come first served basis. It is possible there might be a slight variation made to suit the needs of all, however, once you make your reservation, a brochure and full particulars will be mailed to you direct. Refunds will be made only if sufficient time is allowed so that proper changes can be put in effect, in case of a cancellation.

It is possible that many attending the Convention may decide the last minute to join either one of the Hawaiian Island plans from Los Angeles back to Los Angeles and in that case we will be glad to welcome them with our group and can assure them a special rate at that time, provided there are enough seats available.

Les Smith of DeKalb who is one of Conference Call station to station conferees furnishing wind and weather on race days invited Al Moncada and our wives to attend the marriage of his daughter Johnie to Michael Mudge. About 200 people were in attendance and of course Les's loft was visited and a couple of those famous De Vriendts ready for banding will wind up in my loft. He has some excellent specimens which command much attention and are in great demand.

It is with regret to announce the death of Frank Pesek, brother of Anton of the West Side. To his family we extend our deepest sympathy.

Questions and Answers

(Continued from page 387.)

a club, etc. They also have a special price for membership for young people. You might inquire on that when you write.

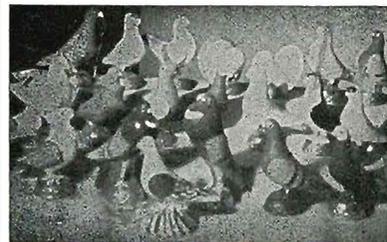
W. M. (Bill) Hannon, 9805 Hannon Road, Charlotte, N.C., 28212 is the editor of "Flying Feathers." Lahores are, I think, his favorite breed of pigeon. I think he can give you some very helpful and sound advice, etc.

If these two sources fail you, please write me again and I will see if there is something else I can recommend.

I wish you much success.

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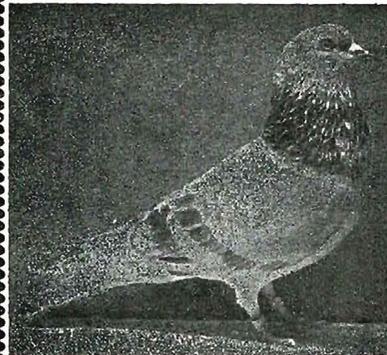
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Another World Record Fantail Show

By GERALD F. CHAMP, Pub. Dir. Central Fantail Club, San Diego, Calif.

In the face of bitter cold — as low as 20 below zero — ice and snow, the Central Fantail Club of America Meet at the spacious and well-lighted St. Paul Auditorium basement January 7, 8, 9, 10, drew another world record entry of 581 Fantails from all parts of the United States and several prominent lofts in Canada.

It was not only a quantity show but a quality display of the "Queen of Fancy Pigeons". A majority of the classes were well filled and awards were widely distributed.

In the pens for Grand Champion were Altpeter's old white hen; Cy Harper's old silver hen, Bailey's young blue cock, Clark's old yellow cock, Altpeter's young black hen, Brandt's young red cock, Harper's old powder silver hen, Kingkinger's yellow saddle hen, Little's young tail-mark hen, Hatcher's old grizzle cock and Edler's AOC old hen. Judge Otto picked Altpeter's white hen, with Harper's old powder hen, reserve. Best young Fantail was a real surprise and triumph for Little's blue tail-mark young hen. A terrific Fantail. Closely followed by Brandt's young red cock, Bailey's young blue cock, Jim Staub's young white hen, Altpeter's young black hen, Chamber's young yellow hen and Vandeberg's young red saddle hen. All were very creditable exhibits.

The Whites and Blues were judged by Gerald F. Champ. Blacks, Grizzles, Duns, Checks and Champions by Karl Otto. Reds, Yellows, Silvers and Futurity Class by Dr. J. Gray. Saddles by Chet Bailey. Powder Silvers and Tail Marks by Bob Given.

Whites as usual provided the largest classes with surprisingly big classes in old cocks (33) and old hens (31), 45 young white cocks, 45 young white hens. First old cock last year's winner again, to Altpeter. A good all-around, beautifully made-up Fantail. Second to Kingkinger; close up. Third, also Kingkinger. 4th, Don Buhr; fifth, Jim Staub; 6th D. Graflund; 7th Thornton.

Old White Hen — 1st to Altpeter, the Grand Champion of the show. Last year's 2nd looking great — smooth and shown to perfection. 2nd, Harry Little, a neat one and small; 3rd, D. Graflund, splendid body and position; 4th, R. LaFleur, nicely made-up Fantail; 5th, H. Claus from the east; 6th, J. Vandeberg, could win in many shows; 7th, R. Stephens from Canada.

21 Yearly White Cocks — 1st, J. Vandeberg, a beauty, body, tail, everything, bit large; 2nd, O. Ohnstad, all-round good Fantail; 3rd, B. Davis; 4th, D. Ury; 5th, V. Netzow, nicely balanced; 6th, J. Vandeberg; 7th, H. Little.

29 Yearling White Hens — 1st, Ray LaFleur, grand type and small; 2nd, Vandeberg, another dandy; 3rd, V. Netzow; 4th, Altpeter; both excellent Fantails; 5th, H. Little; 6th, H. Claus; 7th, T. Kvidera.

45 Young White Cocks — 1st, D. Graflund, small and as refined as a hen. Shows well. 2nd, C. Bailey, excellent body and stance; 3rd, J. Heitmann, splendid body and make-up; 4th, D. Graflund, larger; 5th, Altpeter;

the usual Altpeter type and tail; 6th, H. Little, nice one; 7th, Altpeter again; 8th, E. Biedermann; 9th, S. Steinbis; 10th, R. Stephens.

45 Young White Hens — 1st, Jim Staub from K.C.; good all over, small and steady shower; 2nd, H. Claus, another dandy; 3rd, D. Graflund, the mid-American Show Champion, small and plenty of tail not in best condition; 4th, Dr. J. Gray, nice Fantail; 5th, Staub again; 6th, Graflund; larger but good body; 7th, Bob Given; 8th, J. Heitmann; 9th, E. Altpeter; 10th, Claus. Many good ones down the line that are a credit to any loft.

10 Black Old Cocks — 1st, Hatcher, a black beauty; 2nd, B. Davis, close up. 3rd, K. Chambers; 4th, J. Racey.

11 Old Hens — 1st, E. Clark, hard to fault and jet black; 2nd, J. Racey, also from California, an o.k. hen; 3rd, R. Hatcher; 4th, Claus.

11 Yearling Black Cocks — 1st, E. Clark, a tippy, showy, well-balanced Fantail, Best Yearling Black; 2nd, Hatcher, another good one; 3rd, Kingkinger, small and neat; 4th, K. Chambers.

10 Black Yearling Hens — 1st, Hatcher, a very tippy, good colored hen; 2nd, D. Rupp, close up; 3rd and 4th, also Hatcher.

19 Black Young Cocks — 1st, J. Racey, green eclipse black and full of type; 2nd, Hatcher, nice one; 3rd, D. Rupp; 4th, Kingkinger; 5th, Hatcher; 6th, J. Gray, bit large.

16 Black Young Hens — 1st, E. Altpeter, great front, top and type. Champion black of show; 2nd, Gray well balanced Fantail; 3rd, Hatcher, another fine black; 4th, D. Rupp; 5th, Chet Bailey; 6th, Hatcher; 7th, Racey, slow to show.

7 Blue Old Cocks — 1st, 2nd, Hatcher, grand type blues, with plenty of quality; 3rd, LaFleur; 4th, Kingkinger.

6 Old Blue Hens — 1st, Hatcher, lots of quality; 2nd, LaFleur, o.k. type hen; 3rd, Kingkinger, small and neat; 4th, Bailey.

8 Yearling Blue Cocks — 1st and 2nd, Hatcher, won on all-around quality; 3rd, Given; 4th, Kingkinger, not far behind.

10 Yearling Blue Hens — 1st, Given, a lovely blue; 2nd, LaFleur; 3rd, Hatcher; 4th, Bob Evans.

11 Young Blue Cocks — C. Bailey. Rich color, lots of go and perfect head position. Champion Blue; 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th, Hatcher, plenty of quality in all four.

12 Young Blue Hens — 1st, 3rd, 4th, Bob Evans. Three small, good colored blue hens; 2nd, Hatcher. The right type; 5th, LaFleur.

Checkers — Young Cock, 1st Wallace; Young Hen, 1st Buhr.

13 Powdered Silver Old Cocks — 1st, Kingkinger, rough and butty; 2nd, LaFleur, I liked better, more refined; 3rd, Roscoe; 4th, LaFleur; 5th, Hatcher.

15 Old Hens — 1st, Cy Harper, a beauty every way you look at her. Best old powder silver, good color and refined. Reserve Champion of show. 2nd, Hatcher, presses close; 3rd, Wal-

lace and Stephens, I believe from Canada; 4th, Harper; 5th, D. Crewdson.

14 Young powder silver cocks — 1st, C. Harper, a showy bird, real quality and nice color; 2nd, Hatcher, fine type; 3rd, Harper; 4th, Bob Kinginger, small and typy; 5th, Hatcher; 6th, J. Schabert.

13 Powder silver young hens — 1st, 3rd, Harper, 1st was best young powder silver; 2nd, Schabert, similar to 1st and 3rd; 4th, Hatcher; 5th, Schabert; 6th, Crewdson, good color.

6 Silver Old Cocks — 1st, Evans, full of type and fine color; 2nd, LaFleur, splendid body and tail; 3rd and 4th, Hatcher, also good silvers.

11 Old Silver Hens — 1st, Harper, a great hen but slow to show. Reserve Champion of meet; 2nd, Evans, mighty close; 3rd, Hatcher, nicely rolled-up; 4th, Biedermann; 5th, Kinginger.

6 Young Silver Cocks — 1st, Hatcher, plenty of type and nice shower; 2nd, Harper; 3rd, LaFleur, I liked color; 4th, Hatcher; 5th, Biedermann.

6 Silver Young Hens — 1st, Bob Evans, a superb little round hen. Best Young Silver; 2nd and 3rd, LaFleur, both good but not equal to 1st hen; 4th, Hatcher; 5th, Biedermann; 6th, D. Buhr.

8 Red Old Cocks — 1st and 2nd, Hatcher. Type, but bit large; 3rd Biedermann; 4th, LaFleur.

8 Red Old Hens — 1st and 4th, LaFleur. 1st best old red, type and color; 2nd and 3rd, Harper. Not steady in pen.

7 Young Red Cocks—1st, J. Brandt. Best red I have seen for a long time. Small, real flashy red, Champion Red; 2nd, Harper, just met a topper; 3rd and 4th, Hatcher.

9 Red Young Hens — 1st, R. Hatcher; 2nd, D. Buhr; 3rd, Kvidera; 4th, Hatcher.

5 Yellow Old Cocks — 1st, Clark, a standout yellow and Champion yellow; 2nd, LaFleur; 3rd and 4th, Hatcher.

5 Yellow Old Hens — 1st, Clark, small and refined hen. Nice body and type; 2nd, Biedermann, bit larger; 3rd, LaFleur.

4 Young Yellow Cock — 1st and 2nd, Hatcher. Could be smaller and better color; 3rd, Kvidera.

5 Young Yellow Hens — 1st, K. Chambers, best young yellow, small, round and refined; 2nd, Clark, same type; 3rd and 4th, Hatcher.

Saddles seem to be on the way back. 45 penned. Kinginger's old yellow hen led the way in all around quality. Don Buhr's young black saddle hen another good one, and best black. B. Davis's old hen leading the parade in red saddles, with Vandenberg's young hen 1st and Champion Young Saddle. Mayfield and Schabert also brought out some excellent leader in dun saddles on old hen; and Buhr tops in silver saddles.

Best solid color dun to Hatcher and best AOC to Elder, with K. Chambers of Canada 1st young AOC cock, followed by Buhr and R. Markell.

Good Classes in Tail Marks — Old Cock and Hen, first to S. Steinbis, followed by Little. Young cock and hen to Little with the Young Hen (Continued on page 392.)

1902 — 1970

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The 1971 National at Seattle, Wash.

By PEGGY and EVERETT WISE,
Lafayette, Ore.

Well, we made it, the 1971 National Pigeon Show will be held at Seattle. We, here in Oregon, namely the Salem Pigeon Fanciers Club and the Portland Fanciers, are two of the co-hosting clubs who will be in there doing our bit. It will be a "first" for this area and we intend to do our best to make it a good one. There are five co-hosting clubs and by past performances, they have all been "swingers." We have a real live wire in Show Secretary Dick Barr and a go-getter in Show Superintendent Vic Eshpeter. Dick has handled many shows in Washington and knows what needs to be done.

Everyone on the Coast is thrilled at getting this big show up here. California and District 8 Director Seldon Perry have offered their help and we here in the Salem club will put all our efforts into all-out help for the National. Our Annual show for October will be set aside this year so we can devote all our energies to this. We will be expecting to see all of our friends and faithful followers at the Seattle show. We are counting on all of you to boost us in this endeavor.

For further information contact: Vic Eshpeter, 624 Military Rd., E. Tacoma, Wash. or Dick Barr, 18012 S.E. 146th, Renton, Wash., 98055.

Our show dates will be Jan. 6, 7, 8, 9, 1971 at the Seattle Expo. Center.

Michigan Tumbler Club

By EDWARD D. KENNEDY, Sec.-Treas.,
Bay City, Mich.

Michigan Tumbler Club held its election of officers at the home of Edward D. Kennedy of Bay City, Michigan, January 21, 1970. We have the following officers: Bill Jacobs, President, 1414, 22 St., Bay City, Michigan; Edward D. Kennedy, 513 N. Jefferson, Bay City, Michigan as Sec.-Treas. Our winter show is held at Port Huron, Michigan.

Michigan Tumbler Club members are breeders of LFCL Tumblers, Bald-head Tumblers and Muffed Tumblers.

We are hoping for new members in our club. Write to the Secretary-Treasurer at above address for more information.

Southern California Roller Club

By EARL H. RADSICK, Publicity Director,
South Gate, Calif.

Our Show Calendar for the remainder of 1970 is as follows:

June 24-26, San Diego Fair at Del Mar, Calif.

Sunday, August 2, Pomona, Calif. Fair Grounds, Young and Old.

Sept. 23-28, Los Angeles County Fair, Pomona, Calif., Young and Old.

Sunday, Nov. 15, Pomona, Calif. Fair Grounds, Young and Old.

North Iowa Pigeon Club

By GEORGE STEPLETON, Sec.,
Mason City, Ia.

The North Iowa Pigeon Club will have their Yearling and Young bird show July 12, 1970, at the Community Hall Building in Ventura, Iowa. For further information write Darrell Bramhall, Show Sec. 1211 2nd S.W., Mason City, Iowa.

Another World Record Fantail Show

(Continued from page 391.)

going on to win Best Young Fantail in the show. Steinbis and Little are doing a great job of improving the tail marks, but keep an eye on V. Netzow.

Grizzles made their debut at a Central Show and some dandies were shown by Hatcher, Buhr and Swanson, with Hatcher copping the specials. I must say, they are eye-appealing and the quality quite surprising.

A highlight of the show was Rod Hatcher's entry of 86 Fantails, and as usual, Rod got his share of the awards. Bob Kinginger from Pennsylvania and Ray LaFleur of Wisconsin had their usual fine teams.

The Givens and Heitmann's (including Vie and Midge) were on the job as usual and Dr. Gray, Bob Evans, Dwight Crewdson, Don Buhr, Earl Biedermann and others, including the lads from Canada, were alert to help whenever needed. Verne Netzow recovered from illness in time to make the show along with Mrs. Netzow. Several interesting evening gabfests added to the fun. Friday evening the Givens generously entertained the Fantail group at their home until wee small hours in the a.m. The club's spirited annual meeting, presided over by President Altpeter was held on Saturday evening with a good attendance.

It was agreed to retire a number of the older trophies and Bob Evans was busy soliciting new trophies. A number of topics were discussed that are to be discussed later, including a location for the next Central Club Meet. The evening ended with an enjoyable Fantail fancier's banquet at a near-by cafe where some interesting photographs were taken. Any city or organization desiring the next meet are requested to contact Robert Given, club secretary. See ad in APJ.

Vincent D. Snyder Scholarship Fund

(Continued from page 385.)

and its actual real start in the spring of 1967, pigeon fanciers have contributed approximately \$16,606.46. We have cash on hand in the Industrial Valley Bank in a 5% saving type fund as of May 1st, 1970, \$7,490.46, plus a good quantity of stationery, printed matter, and some cash on hand with the Post Office for our Non-Profit Organization mailing. The "band returns" keep trickling in every week, and we must confess that we are mighty proud of all our pigeon pals, and the editors of the pigeon publications. This is simply incredible, that such a minor, and almost unheard of sport can accomplish so very much. All the great appeals, such as for cancer, muscular dystrophy, etc., could not begin to render any service without nurses. We are actually the foundation upon which they must build. Without adequate nursing care, the victims of the catastrophic illnesses would have even less than a fighting chance to recover. We are doing more, as private citizens than any group in the country. Keep up the great work and give us your continued support. Send contributions to me at 1146 No. 2nd St., Philadelphia, Pa., 19123.

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American Giant Homer Association. — For information write Secretary Walter Klann, 834 Lincoln Court, Oconomowoc, Wis., 53066 or Publicity Director Tom Barnhart, 1332 Broad Blvd. No. 3, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 44228. (470-371)

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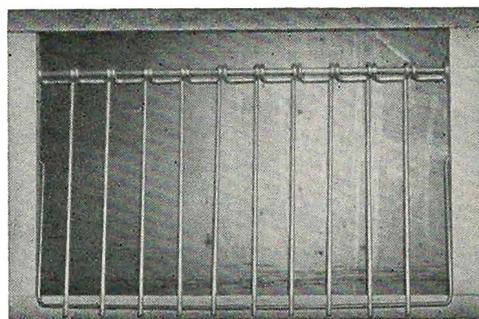
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Pigeon Show Calendar

June 7. — Lincoln Hills Pigeon Fanciers Club, Inc., Annual Spring Show, Dubois Co. 4-H Fairground, Route 3, Huntington, Ind., Mrs. Dovie Maxey, Show Sec., Route 1, Huntington, Ind.

June 14. — Decatur Pigeon Club 5th Annual Summer Show, Decatur and Macon County Fairgrounds, Decatur, Ill., Jerald J. Kitchens, Sec., 862 W. Olive, Decatur, Ill.

June 21. — Golden West Short Face Tumbler Club, Los Angeles County Fairgrounds, Pomona, Calif., Pat Keamy, Sec., 1408 Lynngrove Dr., Manhattan Beach, Calif.

June 21. — California Helmet Club, Los Angeles County Fairgrounds, Pomona, Calif., John McClanahan, Sec., 526 N. Delta, San Gabriel, Calif.

June 28. — Eastern Carolina Pigeon Club Young Bird and Yearling Show, Eastern Agriculture Fairgrounds, Florence, S.C., R. Plato McWhorter, Sec., Box 527, Darlington, S.C.

July 11, 1970 — Tri-K Pigeon and Bantam Club 6th Annual All-Breed Show, Kankakee Fairgrounds, Kankakee, Ill., John W. Turner, Sec., 544 N. Union Ave., Kankakee, Ill.

July 12. — North Iowa Pigeon Ass'n Yearling and Young Bird Show, Ventura, Iowa, Community Hall Bldg., Geo. Stepleton, Sec., 114 29th S.W., Mason City, Iowa.

July 12. — North Iowa Pigeon Club Show, Community Hall, Ventura, Iowa, Darrell Bramhall, Show Sec., 12H 2nd St., S.W., Mas-City, Iowa.

July 26. — Tri-State Pigeon Fanciers Ass'n Annual Summer Show, Vanderburg 4-H Fairgrounds, Lyle Kinder, Show Sec., 1235 Cullen Ave., Evansville, Ind.

July 26. — White Rose Pigeon Club Summer Show, Herb Herr, Show Sec., 3 Carlisle Court, York, Pa.

Aug. 2. — Nassau-Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club Young Bird Show, American Legion Hall, Grove Place, Babylon, L.I., N.Y., Joseph Landi, Show Sec., 915 N. Broome Ave., Lindenhurst, L.I., N.Y.

Aug. 2. — Beaver Pigeon and Bantam Club Lawn Show at Herman Curtis residence, Route 2, Juneau, Wis., Mrs. Joyce Curtis, Sec., Route 2, Juneau, Wis.

Aug. 2. — Minnesota State Pigeon Ass'n Annual Young Bird Show, Brand Peony Farm, Faribault, Minn., David L. Martin, Show Sec., 3035 Brunswick Ave. South, Minneapolis, Minn.

Aug. 2. — St. Clair Pigeon Club, Inc., Annual Lawn Show, Belleville, Ill., Russ F. Schoen, Sec., 2808 Ohio Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Aug. 2. — Down River Fancy Pigeon Club Young Bird Show, Web Kincaid, Sec., 9243 Rocker, Plymouth, Mich.

Aug. 9. — Rochester Pigeon Fanciers Lawn Show, Monroe County Fairgrounds, Harry Claus, Sec., 6170 Buffalo Rd., Canadagua, N.Y.

August 9. — Rochester Pigeon Fanciers Lawn Show, Monroe County Fairgrounds, Rochester, N.Y., Harry Claus, Sec., 6170 Buf-

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Aug. 9. — Worcester County Baby Show, Chester Shliapa, Sec., 11 Camp Hill Drive, Oxford, Mass.

August 9. — Los Angeles Pigeon Club Young Bird Show, Los Angeles County Fairgrounds, Junior Fair Bldg., Pomona, Calif., Dick Pfarr, Sec., 8614 Spohn Dr., Fontana, Calif.

Aug. 13-16. — Colorado State Pigeon Ass'n Annual Little Britches Show, All Breed, Arapahoe County Fairgrounds, Gary Melsner, Show Sec., Box 422, Eads, Colo.

Aug. 14-16. — Southern Minnesota Pigeon Ass'n All-Breed, All-Age, All Color Show, Mower County Fair, Mower County Fairgrounds, Austin, Minn., Orris White, Show Sec., Route 2, Box 316, Austin, Minn.

Aug. 16-19. — Ozark Empire Fair Pigeon Show, MPO, Box 680, Springfield, Mo.

Aug. 23. — St. Louis Metropolitan Pigeon Fanciers Ass'n Annual Lawn Show, Kirkwood City Park, Adams Ave. and Geyer Road, Kirkwood, Mo., Floyd Freeman, Sec., 20 Villawood Lane, Webster Groves, Mo.

Aug. 26-29. — Lake County Central State Fair, Crown Point, Ind., Alfred Stocker, Supt., 1224 177th St., Hammond, Ind.

Aug. 30. — Maspeth Pigeon Fanciers Baby Show, Polish National Hall, 64th St. and 56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y., William J. Shields, Sec., 111-27 42nd Ave., Corona, N.Y.

Sept. 12. — Yorktown Grange Fair Pigeon Show, I. Hellbronner, Sec., Route 8, Putnam Valley, N.Y.

Sept. 13. — Hammond Pigeon Fanciers Ass'n Annual Young Bird Lawn Show, Marv Hixon, 8927 Grace St., Highland, Ind., Joseph P. Phillips, Sec., 1105 Garfield St., Hobart, Ind.

Sept. 20. — Southeast Iowa Pigeon Club All-age, All-breed Show, Hawkeye Fairgrounds, Burlington, Iowa.

Sept. 13. — Mid-West Shortface Tumbler Club 16th Annual Lawn Show, Schiller Park Woods, Don Franzen, Show Sec., 3045 Stillwell Dr., Des Plaines, Ill.

Sept. 13. — Joe Curran Lawn Show, Sunderland Road, Worcester, Mass., Joseph Quinn-Ivan, Barre Paxton Road 122, Rutland, Mass.

Sept. 13. — Chicago Pigeon Club's Annual All-Variety Young Bird Show, Schiller Woods Forest Preserve, Shelter 6, Don Franzen, Show Sec., 3045 Stillwell Dr., Des Plaines, Ill.

Sept. 20. — Fond du Lac All-Variety Pigeon Club Annual Young Bird Show, Cow Palace, Fond du Lac Fairgrounds, Erwin Lerche, Sec., 505 Forest Ave., Fond du Lac, Wis.

September 27. — Badger State Tumbler Club Lawn Show, Gabriel Miller resident, 1509 Ohio St., Oshkosh, Wis.

Oct. 4. — Southern Minnesota Pigeon Ass'n Annual Bill Tyner Memorial Young Bird Show, Mower County Fairgrounds, Austin, Minn., Orris White, Show Sec., Route 2, Box 316,

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Oct. 10-11. — Atlantic Modena Club Young Bird Show, Boyertown, Pa., Adam J. Hain, Sec., 963 Mt. Zion Rd., Lebanon, Pa.

Oct. 18. — Quad City Pigeon Club Annual All-Breed Open Show, Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, Davenport, Iowa, Horace ("Scoop") Miller, Sec., 3219 W. Locust St., Davenport, Iowa.

Oct. 22. — Ideal Roller Club Young Bird Show, Tuscan Dairy, 750 Union Ave., Union, N.J., Fred Sexauer, Show Sec., Box 863, Stony Brook, N.Y.

Oct. 23-25. — American Damascene Club Annual Western Meet with the Great Western Pigeon Show, San Jose, Calif., Bert Banks, 29324 Ruus Rd., Hayward, Calif., or Willie English, Sec., 2004 W. Houston, Marshall, Texas.

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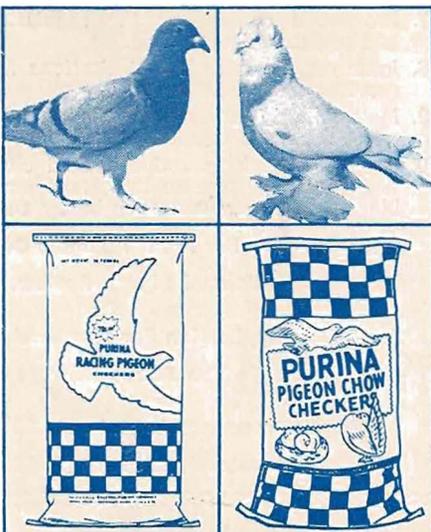
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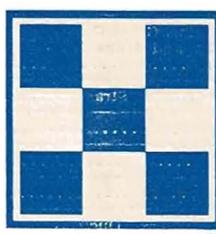
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